THE INDEPENDENT

32-PAGE NEWS SECTION WITH 9 PAGES OF SPORT

Rolling Stones gather no tax





Hoddle hasn't got a prayer

EAMON DUNPHY, PAGE 30



NEW 24-PAGE BROADSHEET REVIEW

Whatever happened to the man in the street?

PLUS MORE COMMENT, HEALTH, ARTS, LISTINGS & MEDIA



Plans to hit motorists and impose tax on congestion delayed after Brown intervenes

Prescott's car tax plan is stalled

BY COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

THE controversial transport White Paper proposing new charges on motorists to curb the use of the car is being delayed until the end of next

: John Prescott and Gordon Brown have agreed to postpone it until after the Chancellor's comprehensive spending review, enabling the Deputy Prime Minister to unveil extra investment in roads and public transport partly financed by the

Mr Prescott confirmed, in an interview with The Independent, that the White Paper would propose "congestion charging" on cars enadvisers have been toned down to make them more motorist-friendly.

The paper, to be followed by the announcement of a reduced roadbuilding programme, will try to to that in towns. cushion the blow to motorists by setanteeing action on road repairs, and proposing action against Arthur counter the criticism by proposing Daley-style second hand car sales-safer routes to schools, with investmen and clamping "cowboys".

For the first time, motorists will school bus services. be able to to check on whether secto the Driver and Vehicle Licensing

foring breakdown services, such as mined, and the three-year

the RAC and the AA, use the hard shoulder of motorways to rescue stranded motorists making emer-

The charter will guarantee levels of service by the Highways Agency, the DVLA, and local authorities.

It will be overseen by a new regulatory organisation, provisionally called Ofroad, which will bave the power to reduce roadworks and force highways authorities to shorten journey times by removing obstructions.

The White Paper will herald the introduction of motorway tolls when the technology is available, and charges on parking bays in out-oftown supermarkets and offices in towns. Mr Prescott is seeking to softtering towns and cities, but early drafts which were criticised as too for supermarkets that offer park-anti-car" by Tony Blair's policy

> Business rates for rural garages could be cut in an attempt to reduce the cost of petrol for rural motorists

The Tories plan to attack Mr ting up a motorists' charter, guar- Prescott for hitting mothers on the "school run" but he is determined to ment from charging to restore

Mr Prescott said: "We have now ond-hand cars have been stolen or decided that the White Paper to be involved in accidents, by paying a fee produced after the statement on the comprehensive spending review, because it is then that the allocation Mr Prescott also plans to let mo- of resources and issues are deter-

programme for investment." Ministers are also studying the option of a further increase in petrol duty on top of the annual 6 per cent

In an important concession in tax policy, the Chancellor has agreed that the additional money will be allocated for improvements in trans-

> "I have to fight for the principle that we can get involved in price mechanisms, in congestion charging, in pricing parking," Mr Prescott

> "I think the time has come for that and what most people say they want for it is that money should go to the benefit of transport and not anything else. There is no argument about the

Transport is to be included in the comprehensive spending review as the third spending priority with health and education for the three years up to the next election.

Mr Prescott is not proposing the on British roads. EU regulations require this country to move to 40- paid tickets do not exist. tonne vehicles, hut there may be a move upwards at a later date.

Mr Prescott spoke of his "warm" working relationship with the Chancellor underlining their alliance at the heart of the Government to finance a wide range of new public | try to collect them in France. projects, possibly including future roads with private finance.

Interview, page 4



Tartan-clad Scotland football fans in Paris ahead of tomorrow's World Cup opening match against Brazil

Phantom tickets will lock out fans

By MATTHEW BRACE AND NICK HARRIS

THOUSANDS OF Scottish fans arriving in Paris today and tomorrow for the opening match of the World early introduction of 44-tonne lorries | Cup may find themselves barred from the ground because their pre-

Several travel agents in Scotland are said to be trying frantically to contact fans who have bought World Cup packages from them to break the news that the tickets are not going to materialise when they

One travel agent, Kelvin Travel in Glasgow, admitted that of 960 packages it has sold in good faith, it is hav-Leading article, ing to cancel 640 because the Review, page 3 | company due to supply the tickets



had not delivered them. It refused to name the firm, but it is believed to be in the United States.

A spokesman for Kelvin Travel,

acted illegally, said yesterday he had 40 staff on the telephone from dawn until dusk trying to trace fans who had purchased the packages to tell them they would not be getting their stadium tickets.

we decided to put our hands up and many people claimed they had not come clean. Everyone affected in this way will get a full refund," he It was announced yesterday that promised. Those affected are those who decided, against the advice of the Scottish Football Association, to huy tickets from unofficial outlets. such as Kelvin Travel, instead of going through the SFA itself or their approved agencies.

The SFA official ticket allocation which the Association of British for the Scotland-Brazil game, which

Travel Agents confirmed had not includes the lavish opening ceremony, was 5,000 out of 80,000.

Last week, in a separate case, a London-based company Great Portland Entertainments Ltd. was closed down by the Department of Trade and Industry. The company "There are a lot of travel agents had taken more than £2.4m in payin Scotland in the same position but ments for World Cup tickets but received them.

> the Prince of Wales, his son Prince Harry, the Duke of Edinburgh, the Duke of York, Prince Edward, and Peter Phillips, son of the Princess Royal, would be attending the England and Scotland matches during the opening rounds of the tournament.

World Cup, pages 28-32

North Sea gas plant came close to disaster

BY TERRY MACALISTER

A GAS storage platform in the North Sea, with 70 workers on board, has been close to disaster twice this year after two serious gas leaks, which have been blamed on managerial

The Health and Safety Executive has ordered BG (formerly British Gas), which operates the platform, to carry out urgent improvements to safety procedures. An internal BG report, obtained by The Independent, highlights the seriousness of the first leak last February and points to a catalogue of management and operational mistakes.

able similarity to the leak of gas which led to the Piper Alpha disaster almost exactly 10 years ago, when 167 oil workers died after an explosion on the production platform in the North Sea. BG's platform in the Rough gas field lies 20 miles off Hull.

BG's report, by its safety and environment directorate, says: "There were no injuries

but the high potential for major loss deemed it necessary to instigate a thorough independent investigation." The report's executive summary concludes that there was "less than The two leaks bear remarkadequate planning of activities including risk assessment" and "less than adequate incident re-

sponse management". **Health and Safety Executive** (HSE) officials ordered BG to tighten up its procedures after the second leak, three weeks ago, even before its own investigation into the first leak had been completed.

A spokesman for the HSE confirmed that a full investigation of both gas leaks was under way and said legal action had not been ruled out.

BG said it would be "inappropriate" to comment in detail on the leaks while the HSE was in the middle of an investi-

Unions claim the incidents, on 13 February and 20 May. bear an uncanny resemblance to the Piper Alpha gas leak. Roger Spiller, bead of MSF's North Sea section, said: "Our

that BG appears to have done nothing to sort out the problems.

The starting problem in both leaks appears to have been failure of a flange during maintenance work. Lord Cullen's inquiry into Piper Alpha found that that disaster was similarly caused by the failure of a flange and made safety recommendations to ensure that similar failures could not happen again.

BG confirmed it had hit trouble on Rough, which is used for the storage of gas to meet peak

A formal statement, released yesterday about the 13 February incident, says: "This occurred during routine maintenance operations, when a seal failed during testing. This was an attended operation, and the leak was quickly controlled by operations staff offshore."

Of the 20 May incident, a company statement said: "The platform, which was in injection mode at the time, immediately shut down. There were no injuries or damage, and the platform was available for normal operations within half an hour."

elected administration. But few

believed his promises: in April,

he became the only candidate

for the presidency. The question

Robin Cook last night is-

sued a statement on behalf of

the EU presidency: "We hope

that following the death of Gen-

eral Abacha, there will be an

opening for a stable transition

to an early return to democra-

cy with the election of an ac-

countable civilian government,

which will restore and respect

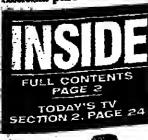
Power vacuum, page 13

of succession is unclear.

Heart attack kills Nigeria's defiant dictator



Abacha: pariah



tional parish, died of a heart attack yesterday. He was 54; few

had him jailed for treason.

Commonwealth as a result and threatened with expulsion. Theoretically at least, the

dictator's death paves the way for Nigeria to return to the community of nations. Opposition protests have been growing in recent months. One person is reported to have died and 60 were arrested during protests last week in connection with the anniversary of the un-

Abacha's death, large protests were planned.

mean that democracy is automatically on the horizon. His surviving colleagues in the junta will be keen to ensure that power remains in their hands. But the protests against military rule now seem likely to

According to Muslim custom, Abacha must be buried explained death two years ago of the wife of Moshood Abiola. within 24 hours. According to

This Friday will mark the some reports, he was buried imfifth anniversary of Abacha's mediately yesterday, after his numbers of soldiers sealed off his residence early yesterday, Abacha's death does not though the official announcement of the death came only in the evening.

> There had been many rumours in recent weeks about Abacha's ill health. He failed to turn up to a special function in Lagos last week. He has made few public appearances since greeting the Pope in March. Abacha had pledged to hand

the government over to an

SPORT Howard Kendall is expected to be dismissed as manager of Everton.





By Steve Crawshaw GENERAL SANI Abacha, the Nigerian dictator who turned ria was suspended from the military takeover. Even before death in the early hours. Large his country into an interna-

will regret his passing at a relatively early age. General Abacha was not partial to democracy. When Moshood Abiola was the rightful winner of presidential elections in 1993, General Abacha

In 1995, Nigeria defied the Commonwealth by hanging the writer and environmental campaigner Ken Saro-Wiwa, Nige-

HOME NEWS

A new Hippocratic

responsibility for

health rationing.

Oath would give GPs

POLITICS

failed to avert a backbench revolt.

PAGE 8

A £143m education spending package

A drugs summit has been told to a take a radical approach to the global problem.

PAGE 15

FOREIGN NEWS

BUSINESS

Merger fever hit the US after two banks announced a \$35bn deal.

PAGE 18



human rights."

INDEX

HOME NEWS

Lawrence officer 'unreliable'

The chairman of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry declared a former high-flying police officer an unreli-able witness with little credibility.' Page

Mother flees Billie-Jo trial

The mother of murdered teenager Billie-Jo Jenkins fled the court where her daughter's murder trial was being heard as video evidence of the killing was

Prince sparks genetics row

A row sparked by the attack by the Prince of Wales on genetically modified foods and crops intensified yesterday as biotechnology companies hit back

FOREIGN NEWS

US 'used nerve gas' in Laos

'The United States used deadly nerve gas in top secret operations during the Vietnam War, CNN and Time Magazine reported yesterday."

Jewish settlers occupy houses

Radical Jewish settlers yesterday took over four houses in the district of Silwan, just outside the city's Ottoman walls, in a growing offensive against Palestinians living in and around the old city of Jerusalem.

BUSINESS NEWS

Power stations under threat

More than a dozen gas-fired power stations are facing the axe as part of the Government's plans to secure the Page 18 future of the coal industry.'

WH Smith in internet deal

'WH Smith's is paying £9.4m for The Internet Bookshop, a three year old on-line bookseller which recorded a £406,000 loss last year."

SPORTS NEWS PAGES 24 - 32

Test match ends in a draw

The First Test between England and South Africa ended in a draw when rain wiped out the final day's play at Edgbaston'

Blatter wins top Fifa post

Lennart Johansson delivered a savage attack on the Football Association after he was beaten by Sepp Blatter in the election for the presidency of Fifa', the world game's governing body

TUESDAY REVIEW 24-PAGE BROADSHEET SECTION

Andreas Whittam Smith

'I say two things to government ministers Look past the statistics and comparisons with other countries to what is really going on around you.' Comment, Page 3

My main worry about mobile phones is not noise. It is that they may damage the brain'

Oliver James, Page 13

Media

"The Observer in the "300s" is the newspaper equiva-lent of Manchester City in the second division."

Peter Cole, Page 15

Letters	2	Media	17-19
Leaders and con	nment 3-5	Listings	21-22
Obituaries	6-7	Games	23
Features	8-9	Radio, Satellite TV	23
Arts	10-11	Concise crossword	23
Health	12-15	Today's TV	24

Cryptic crossword, section one, page 32

TODAY sees a substantial change in the appearance and format of The Independent. As well as changing the typeface of our headlines (to a face called Modern 880) and text (to News 706), we are introducing a series of improvements that will make The Independent much better value for money. In this, the news section, we are building on our established strengths by giving more space to home and foreign news, expanding the busi-ness pages and, to reflect that this is a rather busy time in the world of sport, we will be de-

livering nine pages of sport every day.

¥THE INDEPENDENT

Similarly, in our new broadsheet daily review section, we are expanding those areas in which we know our readers have a keen interest: comment, analysis, the arts, media, health, education, law and information tech-

To our established, formidable team of columnists (which includes Suzanne Moore, David Aaronovitch, Donald Macintyre, Hamish Macrae and Andreas Whittam Smith), we are adding, among others, Ken Livingstone, Howard Jacobson and Fergal

Keane. There is more space for letters, obitu-aries, listings and lifestyle-related features. There will be new regular columns, and the return of some old favourites. Some of

our regular features will move (see page 2 of the review) and we ask for your forbearance. We certainly feel you will appreciate the improvements throughout the paper - among them, for instance, a page effectors from parliament, a daily law report and a horseracing service second to none.

It is, we feel, a much-improved package, and represents the first stage in a significant investment in The Independent by the newspaper's owners, Independent Newspapers. We hope you like the new paper. We know you'll let us have your views.

Doctors' new oath looks to rationing

SIR KENNETH Calman, the Government's Chief Medical Officer, has proposed a new version of the Hippocratic oath which would require doctors to accept responsibility for healthcare rationing for the first time.

The updated version of the oath which has provided an ethical touchstone for 2,500 years would commit doctors to serving "individual patients and the community", acknowledging the tension between their

In a key passage it says: "I will recognise that the decisions I make will have consequences for the patient, the community and for resources."

Until now, a pillar of the medical relationship has been the assumption that doctors would do their best for each patient that came before them, regardless of the cost.

Sir Kenneth's version, which tie describes as a "very personal re-interpretation" of the original, is at odds with ministerial pronouncements which have sought to distance the Government from any mention of rationing.

Frank Dobson, the Secretary of State for Health, has repeatedly insisted that the task facing the National Health Service is to prioritise cases and iron out inequities in care, not

Yesterday, Sir Kenneth said: "The idea that doctors should be concerned with resources at all used to be greeted with real bostility. That has changed. There is now a much clearer recognition that doctors have responsibility for resources."

Asked if this meant doctors had to be involved in rationing. be said: "I wouldn't interpret it that way. It is the responsibility of doctors to use the resources they have wisely and that is bound to lead to tensions between the needs of individual patients and the good of the population as a whole."

Last night, leading doctors rejected this view. Dr Peter Holden, a GP and member of the British Medical Association's council said: "The Chief Medical Officer is an agent of

BY JEREMY LAURANCE

the Government and my worry is that he is trying to bounce us into taking responsibility for rationing.

"Rationing has to be a whole community decision. We could never swear an oath that put us at the mercy and whim of whatever government happened to be in power."

Dr Holden said that doctors should always tell patients if the NHS could not afford to provide all the options for treatment rather than choosing the less expensive one on their behalf.

"We must tell patients the whole truth. We must never be led into subterfuge," be said. The original Hippocratic

oath, which was last updated in 1948, says that doctors must respect life, keep patients' confidences and refrain from sex with them, but it disallows abortion. Beginning "I swear by Apollo the physician...", it is widely recognised to be outdated, but attempts to improve it have failed.

The BMA drew up a new version last year, at the request of the World Medical Association, but it was voted down by the association's annual meeting for being too long and boring.

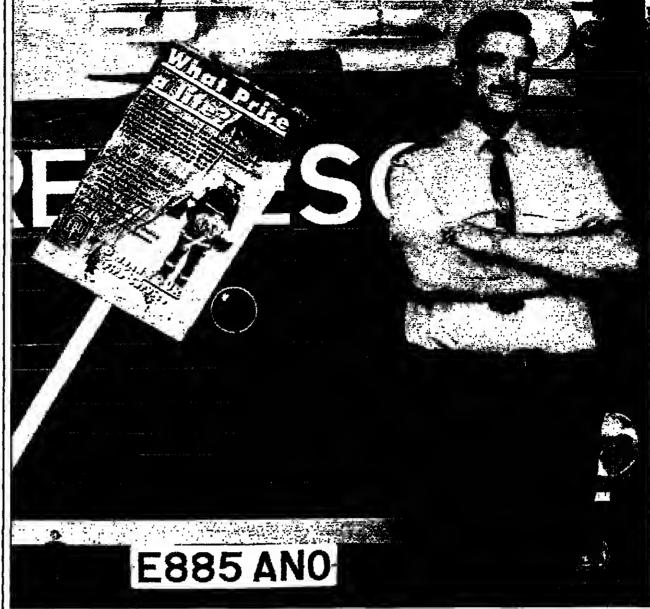
Sir Kenneth's version apears in The Potential for Health, a collection of his writings published this month by Oxford University Press. He says that the new oath

"identifies one of the crucial

tensions - care for the patient versus responsibility for the community. He adds in an earlier section: "A doctor who spends two hours with one patient cannot spend these bours with anoth-

er. Similarly, if a sum of money is spent on one patient it will not be available for another. Resources are, and always have been, finite. "The classical dilemma for

the doctor is how to do the best for one patient without disadvantaging another. The fact that this is difficult must not mean that doctors abrogate their responsibilities.



Graham Miles, of Basildon Fire Service, who with other Essex firefighters went on strike yesterday in protest against job cuts; Green Goddesses, manned by the military, stood in for the fire engines Stefan Rousseau/PA

Rail staff vote to strike after snubbing 'low cost' pay deal

RAIL PASSENGERS face can- By RANDEEP RAMESH celled services and longer train Transport Correspondent trips later this month because of a series of strikes by main-

tenance workers. Leaders of the Rail Maritime and Transport (RMT) union said its members will strike for four days from June 19 and for seven days from June 29. Maintenance staff acted after private companies refused to meet their demands

over pay and conditions. Jimmy Knapp, general secretary of the RMT, accused the engineering firms of asking for "too much in return for too little compensation" under proposals to restructure pay and conditions.

The decision to strike was taken yesterday by the union's executive after more than 9,000 union members - out of a possible 13,000 - voted in favour of industrial action during earlier ballots.

LIGHTING UP TIMES

Aristol

21.28 to 04.45 21.25 to 04.54 22.00 to 04.33 21.16 to 04.44

Mr Knapp said there was no "considerable impact" on train week and improved sick pay services. "The RMT is deter- and holiday arrangements in mined that privatisation is not return for accepting the new going to mean exploitation."

Railway privatisation saw the rail network sliced up and sold off to the private sector. The British Rail Infrastructure Services was no exception and unions fear the nine companies that maintain the nation's railway system will cut many of the benefits staff enjoyed under state-control.

The RMT says the companies, which include engineering companies Jarvis and Balfour Beatty, are being greedy. Union officials pointed out they made a combined profit of £300m last year - yet wanted a restructuring deal at the lowest cost.

YESTERDAY

BRITISH ISLES WEATHER

Some workers will lose up to

£40 a week despite being forced tions of track will have speed re-RMT argued its members were completed. doubt the strikes would have a entitled to pay rises, a 35-hour

> Workers involved in the dispute maintain track and equipment including signals, sleepers, rails, and overhead equipment.

"RMT tas no problem with the principle for change, but our members are not going to be whipping boys while Railtrack and the maintenance companies walk away with massive

profits," said Mr Knapp. Mr Knapp told a news conference yesterday there will be an immediate effect on services when the strike starts which will become "progressively worse"." As the dispute

to work more unsociable hours, strictions placed on them as according to the union. The vital engineering work is not

Railtrack, the company that hires maintenance staff to work on the nation's rail network, expected the impact to be "minimal to begin with". "We are disappointed that the union has felt it necessary to take strike action, with its inherent

threat to the travelling public." ■ Traffic slowed to a crawl yesterday as a lorry drivers' protest and a serious accident blocked routes. There were long tailbacks on the M6 in the West Midlands, and delays in Kent and central London, as truckers protested about the level of duty imposed on diesel fuel in Britain.

A 15-mile stretch of the M5 in north Gloucestershire was shut after a lorry hit a bridge near Tewkesbury, killing the dri-

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WE LEAVE EVERYONE STANOING BUT YOU.

BRITAIN TODAY Noon today OUTLOOK

ituation Eastern Scotland will start dry but heavy rain in the south and west north to affect most pairs, although rain in the far north will die out for a stern Scotland the rath will later turn to blustery showers and surmy spells, them Ireland, western England and Wales will clear to blustery showers for on. Eastern and southern England will be making cloudy with a spell of heavy to blustery showers for the evening.

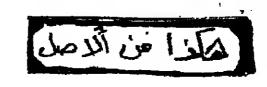
NEXT FEW DAYS

Wednesday will be showery everywhere. The showers will be heavy at times in the north and west and some of the showers will be accompanied by thunder and hall. There will still be showers around on Thursday but many parts will stay dry with sunny spells although there will eze. There will be ram in south-west England and southern Wales

Manchester 21.42 to 04.29 HIGH TIDES AM HT PM 02:05 6.5 14:24 6.8 Avonmouth 07:28 12:2 19:49 12:5 Hull (Albert Dodd)06:41 8:2 19:00 8:1 Greenock - - 13:01 2.9 Dun Laoghaire 12:03 3.7 00:14 3.8 AIR QUALITY Today's readings WEATHERLINE

drags on, experts say, more sec-THE WORLD ATLANTIC CHART, NOON TODAY THE WORLD YESTERDAY







. Stony-hearted taxman gives Jagger and Co no satisfaction

THE GOVERNMENT, despite its cam- BY DAVID LISTER paign to woo the music industry, yesterday went on the offensive against Britain's best-known band, the Rolling Stones.

As the group confirmed that they were cancelling their concerts in Britain this summer for tax reasons, Treasury sources joined fans in reacting with disbelief at the decision.

But in fact, Mick Jagger, who was being ridiculed with gusto yesterday by government MPs, privately wanted the shows to go on. In heated backstage arguments he was defeated by two of his fellow band members - Charlie Watts and Ronnie Wood - who stood to lose millions of pounds in retrospective tax claims. Jagger is rich enough to stomach the tax loss, and Keith Richards is now an American citizen and does not even pay tax in Britain.

The four fiftysomething Stones devoted their monthly group meet-ing to matters fiscal exactly one month ago, in the middle of their

A technician on the tour had complained to Jagger that his accountant haid told him he would face a retrospective tax demand following Labour's last budget.

The roadie was aggrieved because he and his 200 backstage colleagues - from roadies to hairdressers to drivers - had all been assured by the group that being on the road for a year would exempt them from paying British tax. It was to have been a tax-free year of hard work, maybe; parties, definitely; music and travel Now, Gordon Brown's tax changes meant that appearing in Britain in 1998 would

Arts News Editor

spective tax bill on their earnings in America and Europe.

The Stones were sympathetic. They felt guilty that they had unintentionally misled their crew. And they began to worry about their own fortunes. Their own accountants had already mentioned the tax law changes to them; but the plight of their 200 staff now brought it home.

They could claim, their financial advisers told them, that the British

nomes in London, New

Estimated to be worth

£100m. This figure has

been fuelled by Bowie's decision to sell shares in

A world tour is expected

next year with Ziggy Stardust rumoured to be

making a glam come-

Spends very little time

rours will be affected by

his back catalogue.

York, Bermuda and

leg of the tour would now lose £12m instead of making a profit. Keith Richards knew that his own wallet would not be affected. Jagger could bear the loss. But Charlie Watts and spective tax hill. The press jumped Ronnie Wood were furious. They on a story showing yet another failurged postponing the British con-

certs until the following tax year. Jagger, anticipating the fans' reaction and the political fallout, argued vigorously against it, but was and their attack on the Treasury is outvoted. He swallowed hard, know-embarrassing. ing he would inevitably be the band's spokesman when the news broke and he would face the ohloguy.

or Liverpool.

lawyers negotiati Geri's departure.

Estimated at£4m each a

year. At present some of that money is paying the

first (and the last ac-cording to older cynics).

Their tour has straddled

Stones. But they have

fewer backstage hair-

The Stones' management informed the venues and promoters and briefed one newspaper on the unfairness to the tour crew of a retroure of Tony Blair's Cool Britannia wooing of the music industry. OK, the Stones have not been cool for a few years, but they are still rock'n'roll,

embarrassing. The Government was quick to hit back Sources said that they were not prepared to be "lectured on tax by

Phil Collins

Worth about £115m. He

paid himself over £50m in six years up to 1992

Delights middle England

every couple of years, and regularly appears at chanty and benefit gigs.

A tax-exile, but future

world tours will have to

carefully to avoid the in-

a rate of £818-a-day.

tax exiles" and warned that they were ready to draw unflattering comparisons between the Stones and other groups who were happy to play in the UK this summer.

The Tories, meanwhile, decided to use Jagger and co to highlight supposed iniquities of Labour's fiscal policy. Treasury spokesman David Heathcoat-Amory claimed: "It shows how shortsighted the government policy is, as it will hit British fans and prevent them from seeing a British band performing in

ROCK STARS AND THE REVENUE

roots, but can't face a

ive in London.

lagerless tax edile. They

Total earnings to the be-

ginning of last year were estimated at £41 m.

with £25m coming in

more tours than he fin-

ishes. But the band ap-

Liam rends to start

with feeling. The garage of his London home cost £90,000.

In 1994 the band earned an estimated £55m in less than six months in

Pink Floyd

Rarely, it takes some

Their finances are as

opaque as some of their

Stones style battles with

years to amass enough merchandising to fill the Earl's Court foyer.

With Liam storming out on last American outing er a long enough tour to

The Tories' culture spokesman Richard Spring, said successful artists who returned to Britain under the Conservatives would now consider not playing here. But not everyone saw it as politie

to be a Stones fan. The Liberal Democrat MP Norman Baker - improbably enough a lead singer in a rock band himself - turned on them. The Lewes MP - who fronts an occasional rock band called the Reform Club - said: "I think it's outrageous that they're setting so much store on their tax returns. It shows they are clapped-out capitalists."

Who are these bands that the Treasury might use as examples to shame the Stones? The main one is likely to be the Spice Girls, young enough to be the Stones' daughters. Also on a world tour, they have already played British gigs and will be playing again at Wembley Stadium Yesterday, tax experts seemed to

Price Waterhouse, said it was the tour crew who were being hit. He added: "This tax break has been cancelled retrospectively, and that is unreasonable."

Gary Jackson, of the celebrity accountants Arram Berlyn Gardner, added: "There will not be a huge exodus, but any major star organising a worldwide tour may well look to become non-resident in the UK."

Until the Budget on 17 March, Britons who lived and worked abroad for more than a year were exempt from British taxes on their earnings, as long as they did not spend more than 62 days in this country.

Business Outlook, page 19

cleared after 23-year

By Jason Bennetto Crime Correspondent

A MAN who has spent 23 years in jail for murdering a pensioner will have his case quashed this week, ending one of the worst ever miscarriages of justice.

Paddy Nicholls, 69, will be cleared at the Court of Appeal on Friday after new evidence showed that the woman be was convicted of killing most likely died of natural causes.

The Independent has learned that Mr Nicholls' appeal will not be contested by the Crown, His 23-year prison term is by far the longest to be served by a person wrongly convicted. He could have been released earlier, but has always refused to admit his guilt. Mr Nicholls said yesterday that

be felt "sad" and "extremely hitter" that he had spent more than a third of his life in prison for a crime he did not commit He was released on bail in March

following the presentation of new evidence rubhishing the original pathologists' conclusions that the 'victim", Gladys Heath, had heen



Paddy Nicholls: 'Bitter'

Mr Nicholls was convicted of the murder of Mrs Heath, a 74-year-old family friend, whom he found slumped on the floor of her home think the Stones had a point. in Worthing, Sussex, in 1975. She ad suffered a stroke and had cently had a toe amputated.

He always maintained that be found her in that condition, but two pathologists - Dr Hugh Johnson and Professor J M Cameron, both now dead - concluded that she had died of a heart attack after being suffocated and severely heaten about the face.

However, a review of the evidence by Professor John Crane, an Irish state pathologist, in a report to the Criminal Cases Review Commission, concluded: "I cannot agree with either Dr Johnson or Professor Cameron that this woman sustained severe facial injuries as the result of an assault.

There is no evidence ... that suffocation played a part in her death." A key prosecution witness who testified Mr Nicholls had admitted his guilt in prison later retracted his statement, admitting he had lied.

Mr Nicholls told The Independent: "I have had a terrible time trying to cope with things since I got out. I feel extremely hitter and sad. It was 23 years of my life. You try and do your best in life, but now I have nothing." Mr Nicholls will be entitled to compensation expected to total hundreds of thousands of pounds. Previously the longest serving victim of a miscarriage of justice was Judith Ward who spent 18 years in jail for an IRA bombing she did not commit.

dressers. make them all liable for a retro-MacKenzie leaves Mirror amid talk of radio bid

KELVIN MACKENZIE, the notori- By Paul McCann ous former editor of the Sun newspaper, has left his job as deputy chief executive of Mirror Group Newspapers after just five months.

He is believed to have left in order to head up a bid for the commercial radio station Talk Radio. Mr MacKenzie, 52, was brought in by Mirror chief executive, David Montgomery, to work on the cable channel Live TV! but was promoted to run the Mirror's newspaper operations in January. Mr MacKenzie

Media Correspondent

RESIDENCE

EARNINGS

SITUATION

was supposed to oversee an investment in journalism at the Mirror to give the newspaper a slightly more serious look.

National station Talk Radio has been on the market since its major shareholder the Luxembourg media group CLT-UFA announced that it would sell all its UK radio stations earlier this year.

A source at Talk Radio said yes-

terday that there had been a number of bids for the station but that no decision had yet been made Bidders are believed to include the US broadcaster Jancor Communications and the regional rolling news station

make money since its launch in 1995 because of the size of its cash bid to win its national speech radio licence. There has been speculation about

media group. Axel Springer, publisher of Ger-many's biggest selling tabloid, Bild, is run by Gus Fischer, a former boss of Mr Mackenzie during his time at the Sun. The two are believed to London News Radio.

Talk Radio has been struggling to have had strained relations in the past. City advisers said yesterday they would mark down the value of Mirror Group without Mr MacKenzie as part of the management. Mr MacKenzie's future since it was

revealed two weeks ago that the Ger-Mr MacKenzie is known to have

man publishing giant Axel Springer

is considering a take-over bid for the

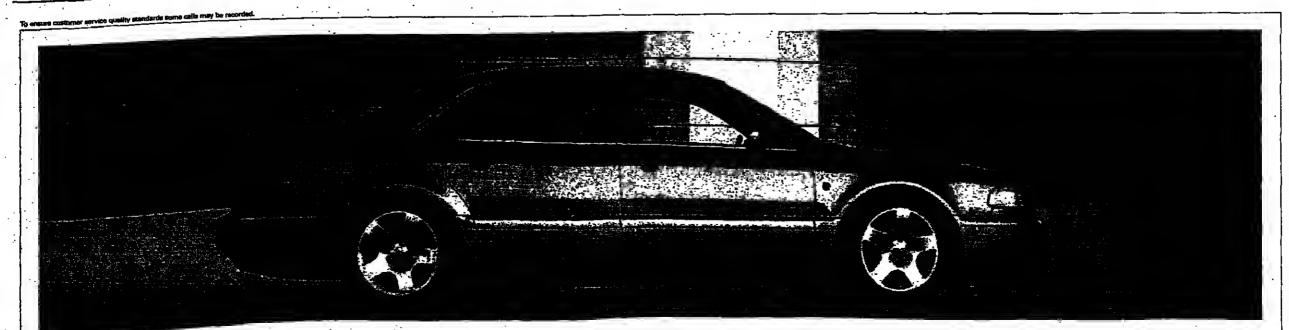
Talk Radio some months ago and is now thought to be part of another

consortium. "He has been chillingly happy recently," said an executive on the Mirfor yesterday. "He has always said he wanted to get back into broadcasting."

While at the Sun, the former South East London Mercury reporter became infamous for his hrand of xenophobic and homophobic journalism. His style was best il-

requested the sale documents on lustrated by his headline used after the loss of 368 lives in the sinking of the Belgrano during the Falkiands War: Gotcha!

> He attracted equal opprobrium and cost the Sun 200,000 sales worth an estimated £10m in Merseyside after the Hillsborough disaster when the newspaper ran a story headlined 'The Truth' which claimed: "Some fans picked pockets of victims. Some fans urinated on the brave cops. Some fans beat up PC giving kiss of



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Yes, my language is robust. It's how I get the message across to the Left'

A tough approach gets results, says the Deputy Prime Minister. Interview by Colin Brown

JOHN PRESCOTT was in a forgiving mood. Sitting in the back of his red ministerial Jaguar en route from his Hull home to Heathrow airport, the Deputy Prime Minister conceded be may have gone slightly over the top when he accused one of Tony Blair's advisers of being a "teenybopper". He had been unfair to Geoff Nor-

ris, a member of the Downing Street policy unit, who had described his transport White Paper as being too "anti-car". Mr Prescott cooceded that the adviser to the Prime Minister had been right about the early draft of his White Paper. "I think the incident was a little unfair to Geoff Norris. I tend to use language which epitomises a mood. I mean Geoffrey is 40-odd... We did have a bit of a laugh about it afterwards.

"Perhaps the language is a bit ro-bust really but it's one of those ways that I make my point, so the Left pick up the message. It's another expression like beautiful people' - some of them were quite ugly really. It's part of my humour, which is an important part of my political personality. It's not meant to be personally offensive, hut beautiful people' did identify a mood, and it became part of the political language."

Motorists who see Mr Prescott as the Oppressor in the Red Jag may also feel relieved that he has oow toned down the much-heralded, and delayed, White Paper.

British Museum, in central London, with the Chancellor could be makhe was still hrimming with ideas: ing doubting "teenyboppers" in the asset-sweating to produce more City sit up and take note that the formoney for more investment; an mer cruise liner bar steward, who idea for building a bus lane along the celebrated his 60th birthday last M25 from Heathrow to Gatwick; a week, has come of age. plan to let the breakdown services use the hard shoulder to reach from Mr Prescott's home in east Hull stranded motorists, particularly -a former Salvation Army hostel that womeo at risk,

Through a three-hour conversation, he repeatedly spoke of his He was going to the airport to take "warm" relations with Gordon Concorde to New York, and arranged Brown. There is an important alliance which has been formed at the his schedule. At the moment, it is still heart of the Government, which is petrol-driven; he is still awaiting deonly just beginning to bear fruit. He livery of a gas-powered V8 version.



John Prescott: I believe if you get it right in the first 12 months, and it's good, it's easier to live with'

As the car squeezed through the narrow back-streets around the Deputy Prime Minister's deals

We were travelling to Heathrow cost £28,000 in the 1970s and is known locally as Prescott's Castle. to go by car to fit our interview into

Should someone who is supposed to be at the helm of the green revolution be in a car, and taking Concorde? Mr Prescott is not talking about banning the car. He wants to reduce its use where possible, but he is realistic; the British love affair with the car will not be broken until there are better alternatives.

He thinks it is risible for the Conservatives attack him for being "anti-car" as he is using ideas such as coogestion-charging and tolling on motorways which the Tories set in train. He is more concerned at their claims that it will hit mothers on the "school run". Mr Prescott is anxious to nullify

that charge, and is looking at safer

routes to school for children, including an experiment in Leicester where a bridge over a railway led to a big increase in children cycling, or more investment in school buses. "All these cars parked outside schools is quite dangerous for children. The question is, can we meet their demand in a different way?

"I think there is a lot to be done with getting people who take the oormal journey to work, oot just the school. The DVLA have 4,000 workers and three-quarters are women; they can travel by flexi-hours that allows them to drop the kids off, do the shopping and pick the kids back

himself after a year in government. His only complaint is that he is putting on weight; he is powerfully huilt, although only 5ft 7inches in beight, and has decided to shed some pounds; there is a set of scales in the boot - part of an attempt to stop his snacking.

Despite his gruelling schedule last Friday it was Spain, yesterday it was New York, today it will be Question Time in the Commons - he feels that "exhilaration" is winning out over the tiredness that comes with office. "It was part of my judgement at the beginning that all my efforts would be going into getting the footings in hecause I believe if you He seemed more at ease with get it right in the first 12 months, and

it's good, it's easier to live with. If you get it wrong, you have to live with the reputation of the bad first year."

The City, like some of his friends under-estimated him. Clare Short told him with blunt honesty in the leadership election that people would not vote for him as leader because they could not see him handling Prime Minister's questions. After a year in office, he believes most people have revised their view about him, but not all. Mr Prescott was still bristling over the City journalist who questioned how someone who was once a steward could have put together the Loodon and Continental Railways deal which rescued

Pay-out to victimised woman inspector

BY JASON BENNETTO

A WOMAN police inspector who claimed her career was ruined by sexual harassment yesterday wonan apology and compensation in an out-of-court settlement.

Lincolnshire Police are thought to have paid Dena Fleming up to £60,000 after a two-year legal battle. Inspector Fleming, 39, claimed that a "whispering campaign" began after she spurned one officer's sexual advances and gave another a poor appraisal

She was suspended on full pay for more than two years after putting a tape recorder in her locker to catch alleged offenders. She eventually sued her force for sexual

In February an industrial tri-bunal ruled against her claims of sex discrimination but said she had been victimised after making them and ordered that all disciplinary charges should be dropped.

Lincolnshire Police formally

agreed terms as the case was due to be heard at an industrial tribunal in Nottingham yesterday. Both sides have agreed not to Bernu

comment on the case as part of the undisclosed compensation settlement but, as part of the deal, a letter from Lincolnshire's new Chief Constable, Richard Childs, was released yesterday.

It said: "I give an assurance that the issues which have arisen are being addressed as a matter of urgency. The Lincolnshire Police are sorry for any distress caused to

In March Inspector Fleming was reinstated and moved to the Humberside force where her husband Max was a constable. All disciplinary charges were dropped, . hut Inspector Fleming is understood to have claimed for hurt feelings and potential loss of earnings as she was unable to apply for promotion during her suspension.

An investigation into Lincolnshire's handling of the case carried out by Humberside Chief Constable Tony Leonard - has never been made public.

A press statement issued yesterday said it was the Lincolnshire Chief Constable's intention to ensure that no officer in the future would experience distress as suffered by In-

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Lawrence officer's credibility attacked '

THE CHAIRMAN of the Stephen Lawrence inquiry interrupted the evidence of a former highflying police officer yesterday to declare him an unreliable witness with little credibility.

Sir William Macpherson of Cluny also dismissed an internal review of the Lawrence murder investigation undertaken by the officer, former Detective Chief Superinteodent Roderick Barker, as "in-

The review concluded that the conduct of the investigation had been satisfactory and that all lines of inquiry had been correctly pursued. It was cited for four years by the highest-rank-ing Metropolitan Police officers as proof that detectives did all they could to catch Stephen's

Sir William, a former High Court judge, made his unexpected intervention after the public inquiry into Stephen's death was told that Mr Barker was chosen for the review because he was regarded as "the crème de la crème" by Sir Paul BY KATHY MARKS

Coodon, the Metropolitan Police Commissioner. Sir William said he and his

advisers had carefully considered Mr Barker's evidence to the inquiry. "We feel it oeces-sary and right that we should say, in our view, his value as a witness and his credibility in vital matters has already beeo much undermined, for reasons which will be perfectly obvious for anyone here today," he said.

"Our present view ... is that we feel we ought to indicate that this review is likely to be regarded by us as indefensible, for what must be obvious reasons."

He suggested to lawyers representing the various parties that further questioning of Mr Barker, who retired last year, would be a waste of time. Stephen Lawrence, an A-

level student, was stabbed to death in a racist attack by a white gang in Eltham, south-

east London, in April 1993. A lengthy catalogue of serious errors and omissions by the

murder squad has been outlined to the public inquiry over

the past 10 weeks, including an admission by senior officers that they could have made arrests within 48 hours. The inquiry heard yesterday

review, which was carried out in autumn 1993, were approved by Sir Paul and the area assistant commissioner, Ian Johnston. Mr Johnston defended the

Stephen's inquest in February 1997, saying he believed that "right from the start we did all we could".

High-ranking officers continued to maintain this stance until a scathing report by the Police Complaints Authority last December.

The PCA report criticised Mr Barker's review for failing to give fresh impetus to the investigatioo by ideotifying mistakes and lost opportunities. It said that the reassurance that it gave to senior detectives was "ultimately highly damaging".

lish, counsel for the Lawrence family, that he was handpicked for the review because he was "one of the Met's best". Mr Kamlish said: "From the Commissioner downwards, you were that the contents of Mr Barker's a trusted, high-flying officer.

er agreed with Stepben Kam-

"Your career background reads like the perfect police officer's CV. You have been head of the Flying Squad, head of major crime in north-west Lonmurder investigation after don, involved in 200 murder inquiries. You were the crème de la crème, Mr Barker, as considered by the Commissioner and other officers."

Mr Barker denied that his review had been "a whitewash". But he agreed that when be was hriefed by his superiors, he was told "not to upset or un-

dermine" senior detectives. Stephen's father, Neville, said after yesterday's hearing: "It has now been made clear that the review is a complete and utter cover-up. I want to know who is going to accept re-sponsibility for this cover-up." The inquiry continues today.

Cosmopolitan' turns to TV

THE WORLD'S oumber one women's magazine, Cosmopolitan, is to be made over as a television channel.

Targeting upmarket twentysomething women, The Cosmopolitan channel, is due to launch in Brazil later this year as a "test-bed". Plans are in place for the channel to come to Europe and the UK within two years.

Cosmo's pioneering agenda of relationships, orgasms and careers, which kicked off the modern women's glossy market in the early Seventies, will be reflected in the content of the channel. It will be a mix of new BY JANINE GIBSON Media Correspondent

essence" of Cosmopolitan, according to a senior executive. Regulations governing "masthead television" preventing magazine title spin-off shows from terrestrial television have recently been relaxed by

the Independent Televisioo Commission (TTC). However, guidelines still prevent the televising of specific editorial features from a publication, so a channel will have to reflect the magazine rather than copy it.

Cosmopolitan's United States pareot company, the and bought-in programmes Hearst Corporation, already which will "capture the owns a string of channels

through its television division, Hearst Eotertainmeot. The television arm operates an animation channel and owns stakes in two US cable channels, Arts and Eotertainment and the History Channel. The

UK Cosmopolitan channel is

likely to be available as part of a digital television package. Launched in the UK in 1972. Cosmopolitan is the largest selling women's magazine in the world National Magazine Company, which publishes the UK version, says it reaches more

Terry Mansfield, chief executive of the National Magazine Company, said: "Compared to

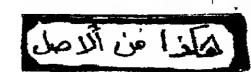
than 25 million women globally

each month.

other publishers, we are in a very fortunate position as the Hearst Corporation is so heavily involved in television already. We don't have to strike deals with production companies to get our titles on air. You could see a Cosmopolitan channel in the UK within two years."

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Billie-Jo's mother flees court in tears



Debbie Woods, mother of the murdered teenager Billie-Jo Jenkins, at Lewes Crown Court yesterday

THE mother of the murdered teenag- BY LOUISE JURY er Billie-Jo Jenkins fled the court was being heard yesterday as video evidence of the killing was shown.

Debbie Woods was shepherded in tears from Lewes Crown Court, East Sussex, as close-up footage revealed the extent of the injuries inflicted on her foster daughter.

Sion Jenkins, Billie-Jo's foster father who is accused of her murder. had aiready asked to be excused and was returned to court cells before the video was shown.

Members of the jury at Lewes Crown Court looked visibly shocked at the four-minutes of footage showing Billie-Jo's body on the patio of the family's home in Hastings, East unable to watch the tape and two others were close to tears.

The teenager's natural father. Bill Jenkins, who is no relation to Sion, left the court before the video evidence was shown following a warning from the judge, Mr Justice Gage, that it might prove distressing.

The jury heard yesterday that the surgeon called to examine the body considered the murder the most brutal he had encountered. Dr Zbigniew Leigh Green Ludwig, a Sussex police surgeon, said

where her daughter's murder trial in a statement: "I have had 26 years' experience as a police surgeon, and this was ... the saddest and most brutal murder I've ever attended."

Billie-Jo, 13, was killed as she painted patio doors at the home of her foster family with whom she had lived for five years. A post-mortem examination showed her skull had been split.

The ambulancemen Christopher Burton and Francis Radford said Billie-Jo showed no signs of life when

they arrived at the Jenkins' home. Mr Burton told how, at the scene, he had noticed two damp impressions like footprints nearby. There were also two marks, like the balls of feet, Sussex. One woman juror was on the front upper thighs of her trousers when her body was turned over. She was found lying face down.

Mr Radford said the paintbrush Billie-Jo had been using to paint the patio doors was still in her hand and a spiked iron bar, the alleged mur-

der weapon, next to her body. Graham Towse, a neighbour, said Sion Jenkins seemed "calm and a littie pale" at the time. But his eldest daughter, Annie, then 12, was "very

flustered, very red in the face". The first police officer to arrive at

the scene described his shock on seeing Billie-Jo's body. Constable Darren Bruce said: "The original call [was] that someone had found their daughter who had had a fall and there was some blood." The scene that greeted him and a colleague at

the Jenkins' address "was the last thing we were expecting to find". He said that standing in the dining room he could see photographs of the four girls in the Jenkins family and also of the teenager whose body lay in front of him on the patio.

"It was shocking, horrific," he said. PC Bruce said Billie-Jo's skull bore a "massive gaping hole going right down through to the brain and pools of blood over her face and hair".

He said Sion Jenkins had told him that he and his eldest daughter, Annie, had left the house shortly before 3pm to collect another daughter, Lottie, from a music lesson. Although the court has heard that Mr Jenkins and his daughters returned to the house straight after the lesson, at the time, Mr Jenkins told PC Bruce that they had not returned until 3.30pm.

It was PC Bruce who broke the news to Jenkins that Billie-Jo was dead. "He appeared stunned when I told him," the constable said.

The trial continues.

Former PC in Bermuda killing case

A FORMER British policeman BY CLARE GARNER was yesterday charged with manslaughter in Bermuda after the death of his live in lover a year ago.

journalist working in Bermuda, was believed to have committed suicide by taking an overdose of 150 extra-strength aspirin. Tony Bukhari, a former Cheshire police constable, maintains that he thought he had successfully saved her, only to return from an afternoon jog to find her dead

But on Friday Mr Bukhari, who served in the Cheshire. force from 1986 to 1990 before joining the police in Bermuda, was arrested after he refused to co-operate at the inquest into Miss Cadell's death, Patholomust have died three hours earlier than Mr Bukhari had claimed. Mr Bukhari, 31, would not answer questions about is girifriend's final hours.

Miss Cadell, a bright, articulate journalist and keen sportswoman from Newbury, Berkshire, moved to Bermuda m 1988 to work as a reporter. Three years later, she set up home with Mr Bukhari

Two months before her death she changed her will to make him the sole beneficiary of her £200,000 inheritance. But she died before the change was made legally valid. She had tried to make the alteration before Mr Bukhari called off their wedding when she confessed to having a year-long affair with a colleague on Ber-

muda's Royal Gazette daily. The inquest was told that Mr Bukhari falsified entries in his police notebook about his activities the night before Miss Cadell died and that he had successfully completed a First Aid course which teaches not to induce vomiting in overdose cases. Mr Bukhari claims that when he found out Miss Cadell

bad taken an overdose he made her drink salt water to be sick. Mr Bukhari, who returned to

Until last week Liz Cadell, a his home near Manchester after Miss Cadell's death, was at Hamilton magistrates court in Bermuda yesterday, where he was charged and granted bail.

Only Mr Bukhari knows what happened on 31 May last year. The inquest was told that he spent the night before Miss Cadell died at the house of an English barmaid who subsequently became his lover. His version of events is that he returned home at 4.30am to find Miss Cadell's naked body and a "goodbye" note. According to police records it read: "I know I've let you down badly... perhaps it is best if I disap let you get on with your life."

Mr Bukhari told detectives that he had thrown the note in a rubbish bin and joined Miss Cadell in bed. He said that he woke at about 11am and it was then that Miss Cadell told him she had taken an overdose. He encouraged her to vomit, after which she appeared to recover - so much so that they made love at lunchtime. Then he went jogging, returning an hour and 13 minutes later to find

Miss Cadell dead, he claimed. Mr Bukhari's statement was directly challenged by the first expert witness at the inquest. "The time frame given by Mr Bukhari just doesn't add up," said Dr Valerie Rao, a pathologist with Dade County Medical Examiner'a Office in Florida. "If she had been taken to the hospital, she could have survived."

Mr Bukhari's claim that he made love to Miss Cadell at 1pm on the day of her death and left her in apparent good health 30 minutes later could not be true, according to Dr Rao. "She was dead by one o'clock in the afternoon," she said.

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STUDENTS WHO want to improve their chances of a job in business and management should head for Manchester or Warwick universities. For success in accountancy or banking, Manchester is again the place to be, followed by Warwick and Heriot-Watt.

That is the conclusion of a survey of 220 major companies which gave their views on 97 universities in 10 subject areas. For overall employability, the five top universities are Imperial College, London, Aston, Loughborough, Reading and

The ratings, drawn up by the Performance Indicator Project, an independent statistical survey, are based or the number of employers who rank a course above average. The subjects covered are sciences, languages, computing and IT, engineering construction and civil engineering, law, electrical

BY JUDITH JUDD

engineering, business and management, social science and economics and finance, accountancy and banking.

Recruiters also rate some departments as below average. In business and management, the bottom universities, m alphabetical order, are Bangor, Buckingham, Central Lancashire, Derbyshire, East London, Lincolnshire and Humberside, Luton, North London and Wolverhampton.

Dr Cliff Pettifor, the project's director, said the survey should be treated with caution. "No university applicant should make or change a decision based on our evidence done The should know that their qualities and attainments matter to most recruiters. The university's negative ranking matters, even slightly, to very few," he said.

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Policeman's dismay as widow cleared

THE WIDOW and stepdaughter of a BY KIM SENGUPTA millionaire businessman were yesterday cleared of his murder at the Old Bailey amid extraordinary recriminations between the police and prosecution lawyers.

All charges were dropped against 42-year-old Linda Watson and Amanda London-Williams, 24, yesterday morning before the case started. But prosecutor Julian Bevan, QC, told the court that the senior officer heading the investigation was "appalled" by the decision not to proceed.

The officer, Detective Inspector Nick Siggs, from Sussex CID, revealed outside the court afterwards that the decision by the Crown Prosecution Service had been taken last Friday without the police being consulted. He and his colleagues stressed the hunt will continue for the gunman who had shot and killed 55-year-old Richard Watson at his home in East Grinstead, Sussex, adding that there was a £50,000 reward for information. There will be case conference between the CPS and the police to review the evidence and the decision not to proceed.

After receiving defence experts' reports last week, the prosecution decided to carry out a reconstruction at the scene with ballistic experts.

Mr Watson, who ran a computer company, was hit by two bullets to the neck and chest as he returned to his £400,000 farmhouse in December 1995. The Crown had claimed it was a carefully organised ambush. the shooting had taken place from the balcony of the house, and the gumman could not have been present without the two women's consent.

After Friday's tests, the Crown said its experts could no longer be certain that the second shot was fired from the balcony and not

court " the crux" of the Crown case had been undermined. He continued: 'The easy way out... would be to say 'well, let the jury decide'. But I am faced with the single question of 'realistic prospect of conviction'." In his professional opinion, he

added, the answer to that was "no". However, Mr Bevan told Judge Michael Hyam: "The officer in charge of this case strongly disagrees with the decision... that he has used on the telephone to myself over the weekend the word 'appalled'... that saddens me, but being the senior officer he is absolutely entitled to hold a view."

As they left the dock, Ms Watson. a former Miss Arbroath and Miss Scotland runner-up, who was Mr Watson's third wife, put her arm around her daughter. Ms London-Williams had earlier cried when the court was told of her relationship with Mr Watson, who had treated her like his own daughter. Afterwards the two women, both dressed in hlack, left the court in the company of representatives of a tabloid newspaper to which they are believed to have sold their story. They cannot be charged again for the murder of Mr

Ms Watson's solicitor, Chris Lewis, said: "She has been appallingly treated. The police have more than sufficient evidence to redirect their inquiries elsewhere. It is not a case where the police are not looking for anyone else."

Det Supt Tim Godwin, the head of Sussex CID, said there were suggestions that Mr Watson's business dealings in Russia may have hrought him into conflict with gang-sters, but had no evidence of that.

Watson stood to inherit around £693,000 from her husband. But Ms Watson's counsel, John Coffey, said there was no will under which Ms Watson would have benefited, nor did she stand to benefit from an insurance policy or the proceeds of the marital home.

Mr Bevan added that Ms Watson at one stage considered divorce as she felt the marriage was not "an equal partnership", and that she had become "more a housewife than a wife". She had been annoyed to learn that Mr Watson planned to leave 51 per cent of his company to his son, Julian, but the couple were said to have reconciled their

On the night of the murder, the court was told earlier by Mr Bevan, Ms London-Williams had heard a gate open, a car coming in, and then her father's voice saying "Get away from me - get away, not again..." Mr Bevan continued: "As she is pulling aside the curtain, she hears a loud bang, and no more from her father. She sees a man in a balaclava carrying a gun, the gun is smoking."

Ms London-Williams went outside and saw her father lying on the ground with blood pouring from her neck. She told her mother, and made 999 calls. The Crown, said Mr Bevan, had considered "oddities" in the 999 calls but now accepted that "in this dreadful crime, you would expect [those affected] to be in a severe state of shock."

After the murder, Ms Watson and her daughter moved to a £300,000 property in nearby Lingfield, where they still live. Ms Watson's solicitor, Mr Lewis, said: "She is extremely relieved that the allegations will be pursued no longer, but it is not a cause for celebration because her



Mr Bevan told the court that Ms husband's murderer is still at large." Linda Watson is kissed by a well wisher prior to the announcement that charges against her were to be dropped Neville Elder

Eton homes plan angers residents in conservation area

BRITAIN'S MOST famous public school has angered residents of one of the most fashionable areas of Park, is one of the last fragments of London after it announced plans to demolish a Victorian cottage and coach house and replace them with luxury mock-Georgian accommo-

Eton College, which has owned the plot of land on which the huildings are sited since 1449, has lodged an application with Camden Council in north London to knock down the cottage and build three bouses. The plot, at the corner of Eton Road and Provost Road in Belsize

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

a swathe of land given to the college by Henry VI 500 years ago.

Mona Brearley, who lives next door with her husband, the former England cricket captain Mike Brearley, has written to all local residents asking them to join a campaign against the plans. The actors Bob Hoskins and Derek Jacobi, as well as the Oasis singer Noel Gallagher and Helena Kennedy QC all live in surrounding streets.

"This is a conservation area and

these buildings and the land they stand on are absolute gems," Mrs Brearley said. "I do think Eton should have the courtesy to talk to the residents about what they want because there is great strength of feeling about it."

It is not the first time the denizens of leafy north London have swung into action and petitioned Camden Council when the modern world has threatened to encroach upon their graceful houses and tree-lined

to keep McDonald's out of the High Street, are currently trying to save the area's last authentic coffee bar. The Coffee Cup.

Now the fight to preserve the beauty of the area has moved south to Belsize Park. It is the fourth time that the school has applied to demolish the cottage and build on the site. One application was turned down last September and the others were withdrawn.

"They have totally neglected the house in the past. It could have been Residents in Hampstead, having a beautiful home in its own right, but failed in the "Burgher Off" campaign now it is a terrible mess and I think

Finance SA.

Art and Science.

what they are doing amounts to vandalism," Mrs Brearley said.

However, May Bass, secretary of the Provost Court residents' association, said the cottage should be renovated. "What is the point of having a conservation area if you are not going to conserve anything.

"The cottage is not beyond redemption and they should do it up. The grounds could be beautiful and they provide a welcome bit of green-

Anthony Culligan, said that if Eton College authorities insisted on demolishing the cottage they should

build something of a similar size. best course of action would be to demolish it all together and build You cannot just knock down a huilding in a conservation area something more in keeping with the locality. The plans for the new housunless you are going to do something es match the architecture around. which enhances the area and I cannot see that these houses will do It is in Georgian style, but it is not a monolith and will not involve

that," he said. But Adrian Harris, the estates manager for Eton College, said the three planned bouses - one threestorey family home and two semidetached houses - would complement the area far better than the run-down cottage which was too

He added: "I think that what we are proposing is attractive and in keeping with the area." A spokesman for Camden Coun-

felling any trees," he said.

cil said the application had been received and was at the consultation stage. A final decision is expected on small to convert to a family bouse. "We have been advised that the



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REDUCTIONS ON 0800 we're on your side

Art ownership case rivets auction firms BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH A SIXTEENTH century painting is at the centre of a dispute over ownership which could have far-reaching implications for the international art market, a court heard yesterday. The painting, by Joachim Wtewael, a contemporary of Shakespeare, vanished from Germany after the Second World War and was bought by a Panamanian Corporation who tried to sell it in 1989. But the tiny masterpiece, The Holy Family with Saints John and Elizabeth and Angels, The disputed work, by was withdrawn from sale in Joachim Wtewael April 1992 when doubts about its provenance were raised. Since then the painting, which measures just eight inches by six, has remained in safekeeping at Sotheby's pending the outcome of the dispute between the City of Gotha toof the war was in dispute, the gether with the Federal

During the Second World War, it was probably put into storage at a castle in what was to become the German Demo-However its fate at the end

court heard. Cobert claimed Republic of Germany and the that Adolf Kozlenkov, a colonel Panamanian company Cobert in the Soviet forces from Latvia, took the picture. The German authorities said this story was Alexander Layton QC, for the German authorities, told Mr a fabrication and that military Justice Moses that his decision archives showed no sign of a colonel from Latvia called Kowould be closely watched by the zlenkov. They argue that the London auction houses at the most likely sequence of events centre of the art trade. was that the painting was taken from Gotha by Soviet soldiers "There are many thousands of works of art known to exist hefore this century's wars, and kept in the Soviet Union which remain hidden, and it is until 1986, from where, it was agreed, it was eventually taken thought that the outcome of this case may have a significant to Berlin. In November 1988, it bearing on the extent to which was acquired by a Mrs Breslav those who now have those lost

who took it to Sotheby's before works of art will sell them for selling it to Cobert. their own profit, without fear of claims by their rightful owners," Cobert is expected to argue that the authorities have lost all rights of possession and own-The court heard that the ership to the painting. They story of the painting, believed to be worth at least £700,000 was ciaim that under the limitation period set out by the German Civil Code, the authorities had "like something out of a detec-tive novel". It had been owned only 30 years from the date in by the Duke of Saxe-Cohurgthe mid 1940s when the paint-Gotha since 1826 and, from ing was removed from the pos-1928, formed part of a collection known as the Saxe-Coburgsession of the Foundation in which to bring a claim for its re-Gotha Ducal Foundation for

turn. The case continues.

IN BRIEF

Ruling 'could lead surgeons to lie'

ALL HOSPITAL surgeons will be required to co-operate with investigations into post-operative deaths, bealth minister Baroness Jay announced yesterday. Up to now, participation has been voluntary but more than a third of surgeons in some NHS regions do not take part.

The move came as a surprise to Ron Hoile, co-ordinator of the unit responsible for monitoring deaths after surgery. He warned that making participation mandatory could lead some surgeons to lie.

Buli gores water-worker to death

A WATER-BOARD worker was yesterday gored to death by a bull which escaped from a field.

Wilson Cowan, 56, was taking samples beside a field near Pettinain in Lanarkshire. He is believed to have died from head injuries after a bull burst through a fence and trapped him between the fence and his van. Horrified onlookers tried to help Mr Cowan, from Abington, Lanarkshire, hut he died at the scene. The animal is to be destroyed, police said.

North-south divide lives on

THE NORTH-SOUTH divide refuses to die away, according to a new survey on lifestyle habits in the UK.

Households in the South-east bring in more than 50 per cent above the average weekly income of those in North-east England, said findings in the UK advertising industry's annual guide, The Regional Marketing Pocket Book. Households in the South East bring in £483 a head compared to £321 in the North East. The average UK weekly household income is £397

Rail link dormice make their move DORMICE THAT made a home in the path of the Channel Tun-

nel Rail Link were being moved yesterday from Kent, to a secret location in Buckinghamshire.

A total of 30 dormice will be released in a woodland reserve with a further 20 being let loose in Warwickshire as part of scheme, co-ordinated by the Government's wildlife adviser English Nature, which aims to restore the nationally rare creature to seven English counties where it has vanished.

Setback for former RAC chairman

THE LATEST round of a bitter power struggle for control of the Royal Automobile Club ended yesterday in defeat for former chairman Jeffrey Rose's court attempt to force an extraordinary general meeting with a view to changing the board. Mr Rose, who won the support of 5,300 of the RAC's 12,000 full members for an EGM at the end of this month, is to lodge an urgent appeal against yesterday's ruling.

Cunard to build new 'Queen Mary'

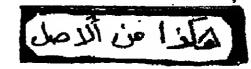
PLANS FOR a giant new transatiantic liner were announced

yesterday by QE2 operators Cumard.

The scheme – entitled Project Queen Mary – could lead to a vessel in excess of 85,000 tonnes being in service within four years. The project is the first direct result of Cunard's £300m takeover last month by US cruise company giant, Carnival The original Queen Mary, built in 1936, was in service until 1967 before becoming a tourist attraction in California.

Correction

In yesterday's *Independent* the final paragraph of an article on page two about the age of consent for gays inadvertently ascribed a quote from Ann Widdecombe to a Labour Party spokeswoman. We are happy to correct the error.



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Ruddock clashes with Harman (even when she's blushing)

ONE simple telephone call would have averted the horrendous disaster that was the almighty clash between Harriet Harman's deafeningly cerise jacket and the vibrant verdant number Joan Ruddock had selected for Oral Questions to the Secretary of State for Social Secu-

But that call was clearly oever placed. The upshot was the centre of the Labour front bench resemhling an especially unappetising smoked salmoo and mushy pea

Along with the ill-advised puce blousson, Harman wore the haunted expression of a woman whose position is not absolutely stable. One

wonders for how much longer she will be taking questions on occupational pensions and housing benefit fraud

But even with this added spice. Harman's Half Hour wasn't the gripping affair it could have been. It was only during a sustained Tory attack that her cheeks pinkened to a delicate hue that stopped agonisingly short of her outer attire.

Was her New Deal for Lone Parents in danger of becoming a "very expensive, failed sound bite"? she was asked.

Surely looking after an under-five is a full-time job in itself for a Lone Parent. But Harman made plain her belief that more LPs than ever raised the issue - courtesy of Jack-ie Ballard (Lib Dem. Taunton) - of government-funded child carers. "Mm," harrumphed a Tory backbencher, "Nanny Tax."

The eminently readable face of Diane Abbott (Lab, Hackney North and Stoke Newington) served as an excellent barometer for entertainment levels in the House.

Stifling a yawn, she would turn her baleful gaze up to the public gallery as another less-than-riveting exchange limped across the divide. But if something grabbed her wandering attention she would





snap out of this glazed reverie and begin bouncing up and down like a

DEEVOY

wee. But not all the Labour squad were as visibly supportive. When Harman became particularly earnest, left hand beating out a worthy rhythm, one of her colleagues
- oo names, no pack drill, hairdo in-spired by a Northern night-club owner - took the opportunity to steeple his pudgy hands studiously beneath his many chins and grab what looked like at least 35 winks. A veil of muted dread and fear descended as pensions were

The shrivelling fact that more than 50 per cent of Europeans will be over 50 by 2021 hung heavy in the air like a dulling wine. John Denham, the pensions minister, was

confronted with the accusation that 10.000 winter fuel payments for hard-up pensioners were sent out in error. The wiry and inexplicably irritating John Bercow (Con, Buck-ingham) described his department as "incompetent". Denman weakly admitted that the incident was "regrettable". Tell that to your grandmother as you de frost her

this Christmas Interesting to note that during this pensions palaver a more senior Labour member took the opportunity to ease himself up and shuffle out of the room. It was only as he vacated his seat that he was exposed as the only right honourable member to have been awarded a done.

premature departure? Presum-ably, he had piles of stuff to get

Having just managed to scrape through on points. Harriet Harman quit question time with the small-

Outside the House earlier, the freshly promoted shadow health secretary Anne Widdecombe was having her photograph taken. Strik-ing what she undoubtedly fancied to be an alturing pose, Miss Widdecombe - you could not help but notice - was wearing a sawn-off safari jacket in another distressing

MPs rebel over proposals for student fees

A £143 MILLION package of coocessions by David Blunkett last night failed to avert a revolt by Labour MPs over the Government's controversial plans to impose tuition fees and scrap maintenance grants.

As a group of Labour MPs were threatening to abstain or vote against the Government, the Educatioo Secretary announced he was raising the age limit from 50 to 55 and keeping the non-repayable al-lowance for mature students with dependeot children.

In addition, the special non-repayable £1,000-a-year grant for single parents would he retained. He also announced that the noo-meanstested grant for disabled students would rise to £10,000 to help them meet extra costs of disability.

As MPs prepared to debate a series of amendments, a pehtion objecting to the plans signed by students was handed in at 10 Downing Street by celebrities from the music industry, including Paul Weller, and Nicky Wire of Manic Street Preachers.

Crowds of students from across the country chanted with banners outside the gates to Downing Street as a group of students, led by comedian Rob Newman and accompanied by MPs Tony Benn and Ken Livingstone, handed in the letter.

The Teaching and Higher Education Bill, going through its committee stage in the Commons, will introduce annual tuilion fees of up to £1000 and abolish the maintenance grant from October.

The proposals will mean that students could graduate from University with debts of up to £10,000, with opponents of the scheme claiming

BY OLIVER CAVE

AND COLIN BROWN

this will deter poorer students from going into the higher education sys-

Mr Livingstone said: "I had free education and I think this Bill stinks. "I would like to tell Tony Blair to

back off this and remember the benefits he had from free education." Mr Benn said he was supporting the students' protest because he thought everyooe should be enlitted to free education.

He said: "There was nothing about this in the Labour manifesto.

PARENTS SHOULD only be able to send their children to the school nearest their home, Lord Hattersley said last night.

He called for legislation banning head teachers from interviewing children or pareots when they applied for a place.

He also attacked ministers for failing to abolish grammar schools and allowing schools to select children by "aptitude". He said: "Putting the question of denominational schools aside, there should be only two admission criteria - proximity to the school and siblings with-

In a speech to Sheffield University students. Lord Hattersley also criticised Labour plans to encourage businesses to help run education action zooes as a way of raising standards in deprived areas.

John McDonnell (Labour, Hayes and Harlington) who was leader of the revolt said: "The main problem with this legislation is that in principle, the whole tradition of the Labour Party has been opposed to extending fees for education. We were formed to ensure we created

a more equal society." Defending the government's plans, Mr Blunkett said that it would ultimately mean a fairer system for students. "It will be based on the affluence of the individual later in life. paid at a time when the student can afford it, at a rate the student can afford," he said.

"In allocating existing resources, we clearly have to give priority to nursery education, standards, lit-eracy and the disaffected at school. There are oo fairy godmothers. The better-off paying a little helps open up access and retain quality for the many who will want to be in higher education in the future."

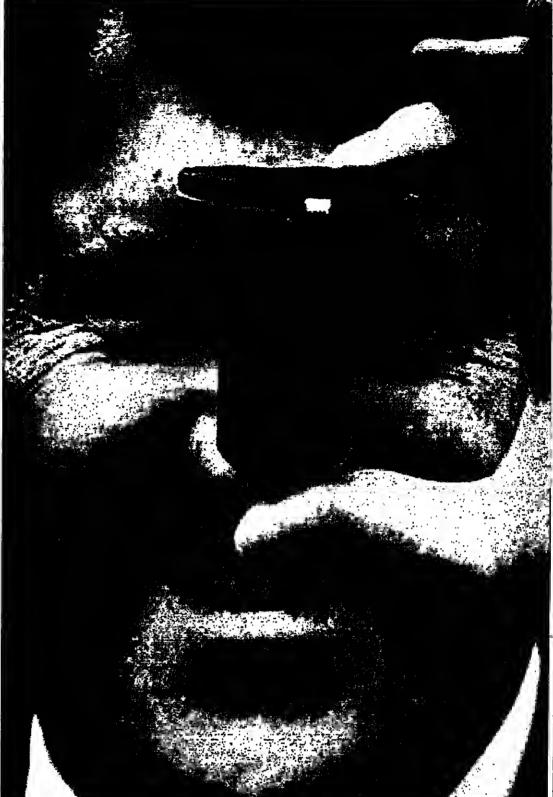
The Government has pledged that by 2002, an extra 500,000 students will be in higher education.

Mr Blunkett announced how access funds helping students in financial difficulties will be increased to £44 million and extended to parttime students.

Other proposals include: £2 million to pay the tuition fees of part-time students losing their obs after starting their course. New £250 hardship loans for students who find themselves in fi-

Lifting the means test on disabled students' allowances and increasing the maximum help available for non-medical helpers to £10,000 a

nancial difficulties.



Secretary of State for Defence George Robertson displaying a landmine yesterday at Salisbury Plain, Wiltshire, where stocks of the weapons were being destroyed Fiona Hanson/PA | mally in year 2000".

NHS 'blind to 2000 bug'

HEALTH

BY ANTHONY BEVINS Political Editor

NATIONAL HEALTH Service hospital trusts and health authorities were yesterday accused by a min-ister of taking a cavalier attitude to-wards the threat posed by the millennium computer bug.

In a Commons statement, David Clark, the Cabinet minister with responsibility for Whitehall, appealed to MPs to do all they could to apply local pressure to some trusts and health authorities to take the issue

He said the NHS and local authorities needed to reassure the public that they could ensure a "satisfactory continuation of key public services over the millennium".

The bug will strike from the end of next year when two-digit yeardates change to 00. At that point, some computer programs will be unable to distinguish 2000 from 1900. It emerged yesterday that the NHS executive has given all trusts and authorities a September 1999 deadline for ensuring "all parts of the NHS are fully prepared with compliant equipment or effective con-

tingency plans in place". That deadline is certain to increase government concerns about the action being taken by the NHS - because it leaves an inadequate three-month safety net for authorities which fall behind

The National Audit Office reported just last month that 15 per cent of trusts who bothered to reply to an official survey "were not confident that they would succeed in ensuring that their clinical equipment would continue functioning nor-

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Murdoch predatory pricing Tories warned unscathed by Bill, says QC on Lords reform

GOVERNMENT plans to tighten up com- MEDIA petition law will not prevent newspaper By FRAN ABRAMS price cutting by Rupert Murdoch, a legal opinion obtained by Independent Newspapers shows.

The opinion, commissioned from a eading competition lawyer by the owners of The Independent, will be rejected today by the Government. It says its lawyers have a different view.

The issue will be decided today during the committee stage of the Competition Bill in the House of Commons. The Government will seek to over-

turn a House of Lords amendment designed to stop predatory pricing by Mr Murdoch's newspaper The Times. Ministers have asserted that the new clause 19, which would prohibit abuse of a dominant position in cir-

cumstances which might reduce the diversity of the press, is "unnecessary and They want to remove it from the bill, claiming that other measures contained in the legislation will regulate

newspaper pricing However, an opinion from Richard Fowler QC for the owners of The Independent says the measures in the bill would have to be modified if they were

to help address newspaper pricing. Mr Murdoch sells The Times for 30 pence on weekdays, considerably less than any other broadsheet oewspaper. At one point the paper sold for 10 pence categoric in its rejection of the

ister, said in response to James Clap-

pison (Hertsmere) that kits testing for

the presence of ecstasy are of doubtful

value. But the Government does not in-

tend to introduce specific controls on

Ecstasy Testing:

the supply of the kits.



Rupert Murdoch'a price cutting moves will be debated in Parliament today

on Mondays. Brendan Hopkins, managing director of Independent Newspapers, said: "This opinion is quite

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Clare Short, the Secretary of State for

International Development, told Ann

Clwyd (Cynon Valley) that she had ap-

proved further British contributions

during May totalling £6.23m, bringing

the overall assistance to Sudan since

February to £10,23m.

was 'unnecessary and unworkable'. "The Government's position on Clause 19 is now untenable and I look forward

position to act against predatory newspaper pricing." However, the Department of Trade and Industry said its own legal opinioo

to it honouring pledges it made in op-

showed the opposite. It believed European case law showed that where prices were below the average cost of production, they should be assumed to be predatory. No proof of intent is needed, a spokesman

"We believe that the abuse of dominance such as predatory pricing should be stamped out whatever the market,"

In a letter to David Chidgey, the Liberal Democrat spokesman for trade and industry, the minister of state Ian Mc-Cartney said the Government's advice was confidential

Last night Mr Chidgey said he would be happy to assist in drawing up a workable amendment

"However, I fear that the Government's real opinion is that the amendment is politically undesirable, rather than practically unworkable," he said.

The Government must stop pandering to powerful media moguls and stand up for the continuing freedom and diversity of the British press."

Jeff Rooker, the Agriculture Minister, told Dale Camphell-Savours

(Workingtoo) that a confidential help

line had heen set up for Meat Hygiene

Service employees who are intimidat-

THE THREAT of a constitutional CONSTITUTION

crisis was stepped up last night after the Government warned it would use the Parliament Act to force through legislation to reform the House of Lords if Conservative peers used their majority to block it.

The warning of a constitutional battle with Tory peers came after Viscount Cranborne, the Conservative leader of the House of Lords reinforced the Tories' threat to block the reforms in the Lords, unless the aristocrats are replaced by peers who were "as least as independent"

His remarks, reinforcing the warning given at the weekend by William Hague, the Conservative leader, were condemned by the Government and the Liberal Democrat leader, Paddy Ashdown.

Mr Ashdown said: "It appears that Hague has decided that the Tories will defend the past and simply tear up the Salisbury convention [that the Lords will oot block a measure that was a manifesto commitment of the elected Government). That I regard as exceedingly dangerous."

The Liberal Democrat leader backed the Government's proposed reforms to the Lords in a party report calling for radical changes to the constitution with proportional representation for the oext general election. The main points are: ■ to cut the Commons by 250 MPs to 500 seats:

■ fixed-term parliaments of four

■ cut the number of ministers by 35; make Cabinet papers public after 10 years;

"Senate" with two-stage reform on ed or threatened by their colleagues or the lines proposed by the Govern-

BY COLIN BROWN

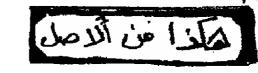
Lord Cranborne warned that if proposals for the wider reform of the House were not introduced at the same time as scrapping the voting rights of hereditary peers, it would be blocked in the Lords by the Tories. "Unless stage one and the further reform of stage two happen together, stage two will not happen at all. In private, I have heard ministers accept that," he told a con-

ference in London. The Leader of the House of Lords, Lord Richard, said it would be a "constitutional outrage" if they tried to use their "army of hereditary peers" to block government re-

form of the House of Lords. He said they still hoped to reach agreement with the Conservatives on arrangements for a reformed upper chamber, taking away the right of hereditary peers to sit and vote in the Lords. But Lord Richard confirmed that if a deal was not possible the Government would hring in a Bill to scrap the voting rights of hereditary peers and create an "interim" House while the future composition of the oew chamber was

Lord Richard made clear that the Government would use the Parliament Act to force through the legislation after a delay of a year if the Conservatives used their majority in the House of Lords to block the reforms. "Like the Grand Old Duke of York, they are marching their men to the top of the hill. I can only hope that they have the good sense to rename the House of Lords the march them down as he did," Lord

> Paddy Ashdown Review, page 4



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Protesters stock up for Birmingham road war



The eco-warrior Ming stocking up with food supplies during a shopping trip to the local supermarket

EVEN ECO-WARRIORS must eat. By KATE WATSON-SMYTH Ming, one of the protesters who has set up camp near the Birmingham Northern Relief Road, took time out to buy provisions at the

He is one of about 30 people who have been gathered at two camps near the proposed route for the road since last October in protest at the six-lane privately owned toll expressway which Labour once vowed would never be built. The protesters have created a warren of bunkers with the intention of holding up clearance work. They claim they can chain themselves to the security doors for a month if necessary.

The Rev David Shawcross, who spends as much time as he can at the Greenwood Camp, in Sutton Coldfield, plans to "lock on" to a tree and start reading the Bible aloud once the demolition starts. "It is illegal to interrupt a clergyman or minister while he is about his normal business and as I hold regular prayer meetings up there, it is my normal business," he said. "It takes about a fortnight to read the Bible right through continuously and after that I shall begin on the hymn book."

Charles Bradshaw-Smith, a business analyst and chairman of the Al-John Voos liance Against the BNRR, which

includes 16 communities, said: "It is hard to believe that the Government has given the go-ahead to build this road. It is environmentally destructive, will create more traffic and is not wanted by the local people.

"Why should our communities be sacrificed when there is no greater good. The traffic in and out of the conurbation will remain the same so there is no point in building this road."

While the protesters at the camp concentrate on direct action, members of the alliance are taking their protest through the courts. They have demanded access to

the construction of the 27-mile-long toll road which is due to run through greenbelt land and two sites of special scientific interest. Mr Bradshaw-Smith said that on

the basis of a letter written by John Prescott, which the group has seen, the concession agreement contains illegal clauses which forced the Secretary of State to give the go-ahead to the road last July.

Last week, a judge ruled that the group's lawyers could have access to certain parts of the agreement with the contractors, Midland Ex-

have said that document should be in the public domain and that is what we are fighting for," said Mr

Bradshaw-Smith, "Once our lawyers have seen the documents we can use that information in our second case which is to put a stop to the road

Gerald Kells, of West Midlands Friends of the Earth, who helped organise the alliance, said the road would not ease congestion but would simply shuffle traffic elsewhere. "The Government has admitted that the traffic on the M6 will be the same and most of the people who will use the BNRR are curthe secret contract agreements for rently using A roads. They will just end up being pushed on to the mo-torway causing a huge bottleneck."

he said. The BNRR was conceived in the 1980 as part of an "M25-style" orbital motorway round Birmingham and was to be used as the flagship for a Conservative policy of private toll motorways. The developers were hoping to start work on the £400m scheme in December but have admitted that the legal action has set them back a year.

The BNRR will link the M42 at Coleshill with the M6 at Cannock.

Biotech firms hit back at Charles

A ROW sparked by the Prince By CHARLES ARTHUR of Wales launching an attack on Science and genetically modified foods intensified yesterday as blotechnology companies hit back. They were, they said, satisfied both with the biological and the regulatory basis for their work.

consumers, between agro- it will deny consumers choice." chemical interests and new sided with the Prince, calling for fuller labelling of genetically modified (GM) foods.

Biotechnology companies defended their work after the Prince aired in a newspaper article his worries about inserting genes into crops.

Dr Colin Merritt, technical manager of Monsanto, said that genetic modification was an extension of practices that had existed for thousands of thing does go badly wrong we years: "All that's different is that we now understand the chemistry and the genetics far more than we did and we can use a slightly wider range of choice

A spokesman for Zeneca, the British biotechnology company, added: "Prince Charles is entitled to his views, but we believe that on a scientific basis the biotechnology is regulated correctly, and there are correct regulatory measures in place before a product goes to

Europe insists on far more stringent testing procedures than the US for new GM foods. Proponents insist that biotechnology which can introduce new genes into crops from entirely different species - or even from animals into plants - is necessary both to meet the world's increasing demand for food, and to reduce the need for artificial chemicals that could affect the environment.

Patrick Holden, director of the organic movement's Soil Association, warned that most of the new crops would be herbicide-resistant, and that there were also unforeseen health risks "which if they came to pass could be irreversible and difficult to counter".

Technology Editor

He suggested that in 10 years all the main staple food crops might be modified: "This is a technology which is going At the heart of the debate is to be imposed on all of us a struggle for the soul of British whether we like it or not, and

Prince Charles compared technology on one side and or- the possible effects to those of ganic farmers on the other. BSE-mad cow disease-in an Consumer groups yesterday article in a daily newspaper. He other entirely man-made disasters in the cause of 'cheap food' is surely that it is the unforeseen consequences which present the greatest cause for

> "Once genetic material has been released into the environment it cannot be recalled. The likelihood of a major problem may be slight, but if somewill be faced with the problem of clearing up a kind of pollution which is self-perpetuating."

The National Consumer Council (NCC) said the Prince was more in time with consumers than EU policy makers who had failed in insist there should be clear labelling.

NCC director Ruth Evans said: "Consumers want to know how their food has been produced because, for a variety of reasons, many do not wish to eat foods from GM sources."

Prince Charles suggested that farming GM soybeans lead to use of pesticides where "when the crop is sprayed, every other plant in the field is killed. The result is an essentially sterile field, providing neither food nor habitat for

For Monsanto, Dr Merritt responded: "In the United States the amount of insecticide used on one crop alone had been reduced by two million litres."

He rejected as "irresponsible nonsense" claims that his firm was seeking corporate power by selling farmers both seed and its own patented pesticide. Farmers did not have to buy his products, he said.

Leading article Review, page 3

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Car-theft gang jailed

EIGHT GANG members who stole dozens of top-of-the-range cars, and then filmed themselves performing driving stunts, were jailed yesterday. Judge Bruce Coles told

them they had an "premeditated and outrageous disregard of the law" which had resulted in anarchy in parts of Birmingham. He said the gang - all aged between 18 and 30, and known as the Acocks Green Posse - had terrorised

the victims of their crimes with violence before parading the stolen cars in front of friends. Police said the gang's activities involved more than £800,000worth of cars, including Porsches and BMWs.

Sentencing the eight at Coventry Crown Court, the judge said they had "clearly relished" their "blatant and brazen" criminal activities, and he imposed jail terms of between 20 months and four years.



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New pension deal for divorced women

PROPOSALS to give women fairer pension rights if they divorce were published by the Government Women are generally

The plan will enable the courts to treat pension rights like any other assets when dividing property be-

tween divorcing couples. The Government estimates that up to 50,000 people a year, mostly women, could benefit.

"Pension sharing" would enable the transfer of all, or a proportion, of a husband's pension rights wholly to his soon-to-be-former wife, ensuring a "clean break" settlement and a decent retirement income for

the woman. The plan builds on consultation by the previous Tory government which produced broad consensus that pension sharing was the way forward, though the system may not be fully in place until 2000.

Harriet Harman, Secretary of State for Social Security and Minister for Women, said: "Many women face poverty in retirement after divorce, despite the contribution they have made to their husband's pension. We are giving women a fair

"This is an important step towards fairness and security in retirement for women and it is part work - are building up funds in ei

Women are generally much poorer than men in retirement, and often lose out after divorce because of inadequate arrangements for splitting pension rights.

Ms Harman said the proposals recognised the wife's contribution to her husband's pension rights by caring for children and the home, enabling him to work and build up a healthy second pension.

Research in 1995 found men were four times as likely as women to have "substantial" pension rights on di-vorce - defined as five or more vears' contributions to an occupa-

The idea of pension sharing was first raised by the Law Commission in 1969. It has attracted more attention recently partly because the divorce rate in England and Wales more than doubled - from 74,000 a year to 155,000 - between 1971 and 1995, and trebled in Scotland over the same period, to 12,000 a year.

Pension rights are one of the most valuable assets owned by many divorcing couples.

that 19 million workers - more than

ther an occupational or personal pension scheme, and the value of

those funds now exceeds £800bn. But, unlike nearly all other assets. divorcing couples cannot split pension rights between them.

The law has been changed to make some progress towards a fairer division of pension rights, but the provisions have drawbacks and are not much used. Since the 1970s. courts have had to take account of the value of rights to offset them against other assets in financial settlements, or "ear-mark" them for maintenance payments once the pension starts being paid.

The pension sharing proposal would not be mandatory, but would enable some or all of a spouse's pension rights to be transferred to the other spouse on divorce, giving that person rights to a second pension of their own, not dependent on the circumstances of the former partner.

It will be available for occupational and personal pensions, and the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme (Serps).

The Commons social security se-The consultation document notes lect committee will take evidence on the proposals. Legislation is likely to



three-quarters of the number in be introduced by the end of this year. Sallie Quin at home in Chichester; she is campaigning for fair division of pensions on divorce

Year W

It would be nice to think the question will never arise, but you need only look at recent events to see how close we can be, at any time, to a national emergency when our armed forces, including the reservists who work for you, are deployed.

Our forces may have reduced in size, but their commitments have not. That's why volunteers are increasingly important to us and why proper training is so crucial. In civilian life it makes them better employees; better motivated, more responsible and quicker to act on their own initiative. In an emergency this could make the difference between life and death. So, next time any of your volunteers need time off for military training, we hope you'll understand and support their commitment, After all, they are prepared to risk their lives for you and your country.



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'Everything I had went into the family pot'

WHEN Sallie Quin's husband For one woman, walked out on her and their teenage daughter seven years ago it was the beginning of a relentless financial struggle.

Like thousands of other women, Mrs Quin believes that she is entitled to a share in her former spouse's company pension because it was intended as a nest-egg for both of them. She said: "If I hadn't ironed

suits to the dry cleaners and looked after him when he had sciatica I don't think he would have held down his job. I earned a right to that money. "It's the principle that counts ... When he got paid and I got paid the money was

pooled ... Everything that I had went into the family pot. "The woman he left me for was with him for two months at the firm where he had worked for 22 years. I had been with him for 17 out of those 22 years. She had been with him for two months and then he quit. Now

voluntarily for FairShares, a pressure group that campaigns for fair division of all assets, in-

and thousands more, a new law

will come too late.

his shirts every week, taken his trips and the odd holiday. It was

she is going to get my widow's Mrs Quin, 53, now works

cluding pensions, on divorce. She relies on income support to pay the mortgage on their family home in Chichester, West Sussex. She said: "There is not enough equity in this house to sell up and move on. I can't find a job that will pay enough money to cover a mort-

gage that was based on my husband's salary." She said that she and her husband had made a joint decision that she would work part-time and look after their child so she was not a "latchkey kid". "I worked parttime. My money covered things like school uniforms and school

the normal set-up," she added. After Mrs Quin's husband left her in 1991 he left his job, at the age of 49, and began to draw his pension at the end of that year. She says that although their matrimonial assets amounted to £250,000, she was left with less than a quarter of that: "I got the equity on the house and the endowment policy and a second-hand car,

which all amounted to £54,000." Sallie, who will gain nothing personally from a new law, says she is campaigning to establish a principle. She is determined that her daughter, now a 22year-old university student, should not be forced into the same position.

She said: "FairShares must have had calls from 12-15,000 people. About 100 of them are men. I think that proportion will increase over time.

LINUS GREGORIADIS

Ballet classes offered to all

THE ENGLISH National Ballet (ENB) is to run free classical dance classes in the park, and put merchandise in toy shops, in an attempt to widen ballet's

popularity amongst the public. The initiatives are recommended in a report by a top marketing management consultancy company which the publicly funded ENB employed to improve its audience figures and enhance its image.

The consultancy, Darwin, has drawn up a report for the ENB which urges a change of approach. The report, which has been seen by The Independent, says the ENB should allow ticket bookings over the Internet, expand the reach of corporate hospitality packages and develop affiliations with restaurants and hotel chains. It also urges the company to emphasise the "very physical nature of ballet". It is thought this will attract more men to shows. At present, only about a quarter

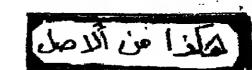
of all attendees are male. The ENB, which receives a £3.9m grant from the Arts Council, has welcomed the report and later this month will start putting the recommendations into action. From 18 to 22 June the ENB will mount "Lark in the Park", offering ballet classes in Kensington Gardens opposite the Royal Albert Hall, where the company is staging Romeo and Juliet. As well as classes, the

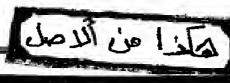
By DAVID LISTER Arts News Editor

public will also be able to see the company training in the park The ENB commissioned Darwin following the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, who as ENB's patron raised the profile of the organisation. ENB's deputy executive director, Richard Shaw, said: "We have obviously reached the point where we have to come up with new ways of generating

mterest. Dan Salmons, one of Darwin's founding partners, said: "Market research suggests that about six per cent of the adult population currently goes to ballet performances but between 30 and 40 per cent are open to the idea. All of these people are ENB's target audience. To do that we have to make ballet more accessible so

people feel comfortable with it." Darwin's market research among ballet audiences has found a number of opinions which will find echoes among arts audiences. Audience comments include: "Why does the ice cream seller always come down in a few minutes before curtain down? It is bad manners... the theatre is always too hot for comfort... there is not much leg room... not enough bar staff... bar prices too high... more ladies' toilets needed.







The finalists in the 1998 Shell London Symphony Orchestra Music Scholarship for strings rehearsing yesterday. From left: Natasha Omelka on the violin; Lawrence given by telephone from a number of people. These warnings did not

IRA bomb calls 'were inaccurate'

ly inadequate" warnings of the to warn and evacuate the many Docklands bomb that killed two thousands of people working and men and ended its 18-month ceasefire, a court heard yesterday.

The bomb, which was built into a converted lorry, went off as thou-sands of people were leaving work within a few minutes they were and going home, John Bevan QC told Woolwich Crown Court in east London.

James McCardle, 29, a labourer from Crossmaglen, Co Armagh, de-nies conspiring "with other per-sons unknown" to cause an explosion likely to endanger life or cause serious injury to property be-tween 30 October 1995 and 10 Fabruary 1996.

He also denies murdering Inam Bashir and John Jeffries, the two who died in the blast.

Mr Bevan said the explosion, at South Quay at 6.59pm on Friday 9 February 1996, was "enormous" and brought to an end the first 18-month ceasefire by the IRA. He went on: "Inaccurate and,

from the point of view of timing,

THE IRA gave "inaccurate and whol- begin to give police sufficient time

leaving work in the area." A policeman managed to warn Mr Bashir and Mr Jeffries to leave but within a few minutes they were killed instantly when it went

Mr Bevan told the jury that a "meticulous investigation" had traced the bomb lorry's history to Northern Ireland. A month before the blast, it had been taken on a practice run to Carlisle.

"It was a major IRA operation which must have involved a large number of people, each with their own explicit role in the planning of it, the conversion of the lorry and the housing, the storing of the lorry and, of course, the manufacturer of the

bomb inside the lorry."
He said McCardle's alleged role was a "central one at the forefront

His finger, thumb and palm prints were found on a number of items which could be linked to the practice and bombing runs.

The trial continues.

New war against army of termites

SCIENTISTS WENT to war yesterday against a rare colony of stubborn termites that is destroying two holiday homes on the Devon coast.

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ly pot'

lasses to all

It was boped the termites, which were discovered four years ago and make up Britain's only infestation of the insect; had been killed off when they were originally treated at

But a few weeks ago they were found to have survived and were happily munching their way through the two Saunton, north of Bude.

Around one million termites are thought to be advancing on a 190ft-long front, chewing their way through the wooden infrastructure of the £200,000 luxury houses.

The termite-busting team, led by Dr Robert Verkerk from Imperial College, London, includes scientists from the **Building Research Establish**ment and the Natural Resources Institute.

Funded by £190,000 of government money, they are beginning their attack on the voracious insects, who have already rendered the properties uninhabitable, with an inspection of the site.

They will then examine other timbers in a 200-metre ra-dius around the affected properties including fence posts and tree stumps. If it is discovered the infestation has spread beyond that range, the examination will be extended to a 500-metre radius.

The team will sink cylinders of unaffected wood into the ground further out still and wait to see if they are attacked, so they will be able to gauge the

BY MATTHEW BRACE

These cylinders of wooden "bait" will then be replaced with wood treated with an environmentally friendly chemical called hexaflumuron, an insect growth-regulator with the toxicity of table salt. A spokesman from the De-

partment of Environment, Transport and Regions, said: "This is eaten by worker termites who transfer it to the young developing insects who wiping out the population - we

It could take the team as long as two years to eradicate the colony completely and it will continue to monitor the area for at least another decade. Several householders in the area have been asked to participate in the monitoring programme.
Termites, which can wreck

houses and wipe out crops, are usually found in tropical countries although some are also present in temperate climes, such as the south of France. The DETR says it is thought

that the Devon colony was introduced inadvertently to Britain in the soil of a pot plant brought from the Continent. These creatures, often con-

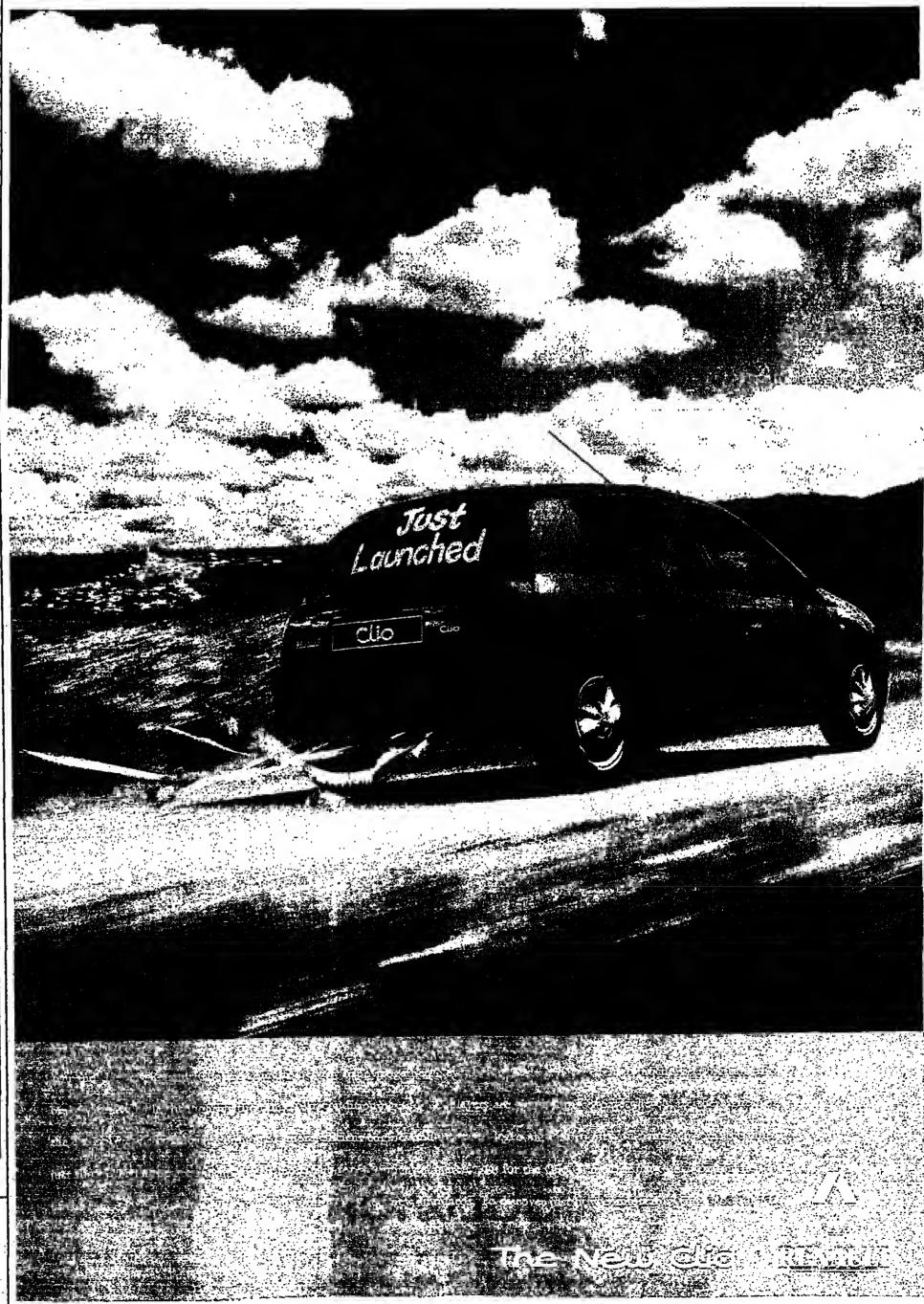
sidered to be the most de-structive of insects, usually live in mounds built of soil mixed with saliva which can be up to 12ft high and hold upwards of six million insects.

The queen termite can produce 360,000 eggs a day. However, because of Britain's cooler climate, the Devon termites have bred and fed more slowly and therefore the colony is not as big as it could be.



The Devon termites are thought to have been brought into Britain from the Continent in a pot plant





Fighting narcotics: As the UN deliberates, part of New York has an approach based on the power of the family

Local heroes lead the war on drugs

in New York

THE Bodega De La Familia is barely a mile away from the United Nations headquarters in New York, where this week world leaders are meeting to ponder the scourge of drug abuse and trafficking. In English, it is the "Family Grocery" and some of the UN delegates might want to pay it a visit.

With its startling front window, decorated with a primary-colour mural in Latino themes of children and music, this place is in the heart of Manhattan's Lower East Side -"Loisaida" to Spanish speakers where gang violence, intimidation and murder still flourish on the lucrative fuel of cocaine and heroin.

It was, until a short time ago, a bodega like so many others in the neighbourhood which traded in drugs under the counter. In 1995 it was the scene of a police shoot-out which left one person dead and a police officer paralysed.

But today, the Bodega is a symbol of a new approach to tackling drugs, and drugs consumption which is the philosophical opposite to punishment, prosecution and imprisonment. It is, in fact, at the battie front in a war where the strategy is not punishment but prevention, treatment and education.

The Bodega's specific mission may seem obvious, hut it is alone across ali of the United States in practising it. It is to try to help users who have already fallen foul of the criminal justice system, and probahly spent time in prison, by offering support and counselling to them and to all of their family.

With as many as 50 families enrolled in its programmes at one time, the Bodega takes two, overlapping, views. Families of users are victims too. Grandsons steal from grandmothers to buy heroin. Husbands beat wives. Children lose love and even the roofs over their heads. Twothirds of those coming to La Bodega live in public housing, from which, under city rules, anyone found using is instantly evicted.

Second, those families, if they can be given help by places like La Bodega, can belp the user to overcome their babit, to get back on the straight and narrow and, bopefully, stay out of trouble and prison. Onequarter of those behind bars in the US are there for drugs-related crimes only and nothing else.

To me, the fight against drugs is



A drug addict in Lower East Side, where a new approach that does not depend on force is being tried

Justin Sutcliffe

not about border patrols," said La Bodega's director, Carol Shapiro, who will address a panel at the UN summit tomorrow. "We're demonising the user, and by extension all of their families. But the families are a resource and we are trying to use

"Conventional drug treatment pulls people away from from their existing supports. What we believe is that there are lot of strengths in peo-

ple's families. Our role is to extract dation, which is funded by the philthe families and not to try to demonise and exacerbate the

Ms Shapiro is far from alone in her feelings. Leading those who will try this week to impress on delegates at the UN the need for a revolutionary approach to breaking the drugs cycle will be the New Yorkbased Lindsmith Center. The foun-

and reinforce those strengths from anthropist and financier George Soros, advocates approaches such as needle-exchange programmes to save drug users from infecting themselves, or others, with HIV.

To drive home its point, the Lindsmith yesterday bought doublepage spreads in newspapers such as the New York Times featuring a letter signed by a array of concerned drugs policy activists, arguing that education and economic develop- notorious Dead Man Walking gang. in the illegal drugs industry.

causing more harm than drug abuse itself, precisely because of its focus largely on criminalisation and punishment.

With signatories wbo include British MPs, professors, religious leaders and the former head of the Scotland Yard Drug Squad, Edward Ellison, the letter stated: "Scarce re-

ment are squandered on ever more expensive interdiction efforts."

There can be few better test-beds for a new approach than the Lower East Side, where the battles between gangs for supremacy over lucrative territory spills almost daily onto the streets and the newspaper headlines. In a year, the New York police have brought charges against 90

Two weeks ago, the police suc-cessfully split open one of the most violent gangs, the Cut Throat Crew. The breakthrough sprung from an investigation into two of its members charged with cornering a woman for non-payment for drugs. They allegedly attempted to rape Evelene Santana, before pushing her off from a root to her death.

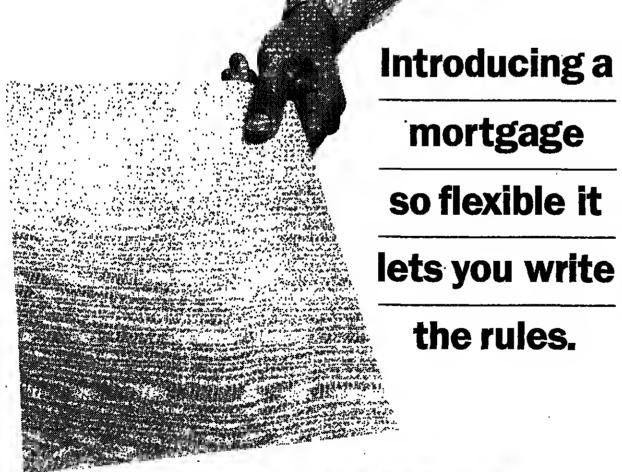
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While many who are dependent on drugs have been in the overwhelmingly Hispanic neighbourhood for generations, some of the area's customers are not just outsiders, but also famous. A week ago, Scott Weiland, former lead ger of the Stone Temple Pilots, an "alternative" rock band, was arrested coming out of the public housing units in possession of

The Dead Man Walking gang, which sold own-brand concections such as "Red Rum", briefly achieved notoriety in 1996 when a back-up keyboard player from the group "Smashing Pumpkins", Jonathan Melvoin, died from a overdose of heroin that it had supplied to him.

One who has been helped by La Bodega is Santos Poggi, who was recently incarcerated for drugs crimes for a year in an upstate penitentiary. He suffered, but so did his wife, Melissa, who tried to visit him regularly. "You try not to show your anger, because I knew he was going through a lot," Melissa said at the Bodega. "Just because you are not behind bars, you still feel like you're serving the sentence with him."

Santos and Melissa, however have found sanctuary and peace at La Bodega. For now, Santos is clean and out of trouble with his parole officer, "All week, I go through so much and I look forward to coming here," he explained. "Otherwise, I'd stay home and go crazy because no one is trying to listen to my problems". ■ The convicted drugs smuggler Howard Marks, the Labour MP Paul Flynn and Colin Paisley, a former heroin addict and former mayor, were among those protesting outside the Foreign Office in Whitehall yesterday against the UN conference on drugs in New York. The three-day session, starting today, will be attended by John Prescott, Deputy Prime Minister, and the UK drugs tsar Kelth Hellawell. Mr Marks, a campaigner for the legalisation of cannabis, said the conference would not do anysources better expended on health, members of gangs such as the now thing to stop the gangsters involved



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YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF YOU DO NOT KEEP UP REPAYMENTS ON A MORTGAGE OR OTHER LOAN SECURED ON IT. YOUR HOME IS AT RISK IF TOO DO THE THE OF THE THE WITHOUT OF THE

Heston aims to put rifle lobby in vogue

By MARY DEJEVSKY in Washington

CHARLTON HESTON, the Hollywood actor who played Moses in the film epic, The Ten Commandments and won an Oscar for his portrayal of Ben Hur, was yesterday inducted into the presidency of one of America's most powerful and best organised lohby groups, the National Rifle Association.

Heston, who is 73 and has heen active in the association for more than 25 years, told the annual NRA convention in Philadelphia that he wanted to bring the NRA "back into the mainstream" so that no one would have to be ashamed to be

His words reflected the new defensiveness of an organisation which has found itself increasingly blamed, especially hy those on the left, for much

inner-city violence and a recent spate of fatal school shootings. There were anti-NRA protests in Philadelphia, a city that has bucked the trend towards less violent crime and has the high-

killings last year - in America. The liberal establishment expressed its disapproval for the NRA by keeping the convention at arm's length, and many media organisations gave it scant coverage, aside from Heston's election.

To listen to NRA convention speakers, however, and read the NRA's publications is to access quite a different view of the world. The Association, with more than three million paid-up members, regards itself as the voice of "responsible gun ownership" and chief defeoder of

today, starting with levels of US Constitution, the right of every citizen to bear arms. Its yesterday, it had attracted alplatform combines support for increased civilian ownership of firearms with a strong lawand-order platform.

To the NRA, the villains of est proportion of shooting deaths - 82 per cent of 425 not guns, but lax parental discipline, family breakdown and a penal system which releases felons too soon. As the uncle of one of the pupils injured in last month's school shooting in Oregon put it in a letter to the Washington Post: "Providing safety with more restrictive gun-con-

> that has failed in the past." His views enjoy wide support, especially in the mid-Western and southern US states, as witnessed by increasing NRA membership and

trol laws is a feel-good fallacy

that is wrong with America the Second Amendment of the gathering. By the time the 4,000-strong convention closed most 50,000 visitors.

In his keynote speech to the convention dinner, the leader of the Republican majority in the Senate, Trent Lott, said curbendemic urban crime and the ing violence in America's inner recent school shootings are cities would be achieved not by reducing gun ownership, but by putting more guns in the hands of the law-abiding citizens. "What we really need," he said. "is 100 million Americans who

know how to deter crime." While President Clinton has had some success in toughening gun control, his anti-gun crusade has met resistance. To the NRA, gun control laws are anathema. The strength of feeling in the association is such that Chariton Heston faced strong opposition from a group that felt his credentials were not record attendance at this year's tough enough.

US military 'used nerve gas'

BY ANDREW MARSHALL in Washington

THE UNITED States used deadly oerve gas in top secret operations during the Vietnam War, CNN and Time magazine reported yesterday.

Sarin, the same gas that was used by the Japanese cult Aum Shinri Kyo on the Tokyo underground in 1995, was used on a mission to kill US defectors, they reported. The Pentagon did not confirm the report, but it was confirmed by the top military officer at the time of the incident.

Operation Tailwind was a highly classified operation to find and kill American defectors in Laos in 1970. It was mounted by the shadowy Studies and Observation Group, who conducted "black operations" with uncooventional weapons and unusuai targets. Based in Kon-

tum in Vietnam, they were ordered to find a group of US defectors in Laos. At the time, US forces were not supposed to be operating in Laos.

defectors, who, it was feared, might disclose details of sensitive operations. "My orders were, if it's alive, if it breathes oxygen, if it urinates, if it defecates, kili it," said platoon leader Robert Van Buskirk. The village where the defectors were based was bombed with nerve gas. The commandoes theo attacked the village where they found several people who they believed to be Americans. All were killed, including many

women and children. But on their way back, the soldiers were ambushed and cut off from the helicopters that would evacuate them. "The enemy was coming at us.

Buskirk. He radioed an Air Force controller for what they called "the bad of the bad". A flight of Skyraiders dropped erating in Laos. gas canisters which killed all of Their mission was to kill the North Vietnamese and communist soldiers. Vomiting and convulsing, they died

where they stood "All I see is

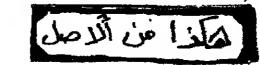
bodies," said Van Buskirk Though the Pentagon could not confirm the story, Admiral Thomas Moorer, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in 1970, confirmed that in this mission and others to rescue airmen trapped behind enemy lines, sarin was used. "I would be willing to use any weapoo and any tactic to save the lives of American soldiers," he told CNN and Time. Use of the gas would have been sanctioned by President Richard Nixon's national

security team, he said. The fact sarin had been used We were out of ammo," said Van on the village before the attack

as well as afterwards means, however, that civilians were killed as well as enemy troops. This was at a time when the US had pledged under the Geneva Protocol not to use chemical or biological weapons unless they had been used by an enemy first. It raises grave questions about subsequent US nse of such prohibited weapons. The programme concludes that sarin may have been used more

Some of the Laos SOG team suffered after effects from the raid. The gas masks which they were issued were, in some cases, defective. Sergeant Mike Hagen suffers from creeping paralysis in his extremities, one of the recognised symptoms of nerve gas damage. The SOG commandos were also issued atropine, a nerve gas antidote, CNN and Time reported.

than 20 times.



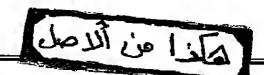
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Abacha leaves a vacuum of power

WHEN NIGERIAN military ruler General Sani Abacha died suddenly yesterday, he left no obvious successor

His death gives an abrupt wrench to the turbulent politics of Africa's most populous nation, where army rulers have repeatedly promised and repeatedly delayed a return to democratic rule.

Nigeria exports almost two million barrels of crude oil a day. Prices made a small jump on world markets on news of Abacha's death but the effect was outweighed by doubts about the willingness of producer nations to restrain supplies.

Abacha seized power in 1993 during political turmoil after the military cancelled a presidential election in mid-count. He had been expected to transform himself into an elected civilian president in a one-candidate election planned in August.

A statement from chief of defence staff Major-General Abdusalam Abubakar said Abacha, 54, would be buried at his home city of Kano yesterday according to Muslim rites.

"General Sani Abacha passed away in the early hours of this morning... May his soul rest in peace." the statement said.

The statement did not give the cause of death. Western diplomats in Lagos, who heard the news before the president. official announcement, said it was a heart attack.

It was not immediately clear who would take charge of the nation of at dependence from Britain in 1960. least 104 million. Abacha's former deputy was sentenced to death in April for plotting to take power and never replaced.

Political tension was already running high in the run up to August 1 presidential elections, for which Abacha was the only candidate after his adoption by all five officially-approved political parties in April.

Abacha, who rarely appeared in

By mattrew tostevin

the capital Abuja, had not said he would run for the presidency.

But he had done nothing to stop supporters mounting a huge campaign on his behalf with the full backing of state agencies.

Abacha's transition to civilian rule, announced under pressure from home and abroad in 1995, had been criticised as undemocratic by both local opponents and Western countries that imposed limited sanctions to press for reform.

At least seven people died in opposition protests against Abacha's rule last month and more demonstrations were planned for the run up to elections despite the arrest of dozens of activists.

Growing unease over political developments had put pressure on the naira currency, which has lost at least 14 percent of its value against the dollar this year and contributed to falling share prices.

Opposition to military rule has centred on southwestern Nigeria since the annulment of the 1993 elections as local millionaire Moshood Abiola was poised to win. Abiola was detained in 1994 for declaring himself Abacha was a northerner, like

most of the soldiers who have ruled Nigeria for all but 10 years since in-The plight of dozens of political prisoners, including Abiola, has been a major sticking point in relations

with Nigeria's former Western allies. A possible extension of sanctions was threatened this year if Abacha did not improve his buman rights record. But oil exports, which account for at least 95 per cent of foreign earn-

ings, have not been targeted. Born on 20 September 1943 in the public and kept to the tight security northern state of Kano, Abacha was of his Aso Rock presidential villa in a career soldier, enrolling in the turned Nigeria to civilian rule. But the



army as an infantryman at the age continued detention of Moshood Abiof 18 and attending military training colleges in the United Kingdom and United States as well as at bome.

He became a familiar figure to Nigerians watching a succession of a frequent government critic, was immilitary governments come and go: When generals ousted the last civilian government in 1983, Abacha announced it on television.

Two years later, Abacha went on state-run TV to announce that dictator General Mohammed Buhari was being replaced by General Ibrahim Babangida.

Babangida would soon appoint Abacha his defence minister, and in 1993 he used his power to force Babangida's resignation amid the civil turmoil that followed the army's cancellation of civilian elections.

Babangida named a civilian goverroment to rule in his place, but three months later Abacha was on television again, this time announcing that be had seized power himself. Abacha's bloodless coup at first

brought hope for relief from the civil strife that developed after Babangida refused to accept the outcome of 1993 elections that were to have reola bore witness to the true nature of his regime.

Not even Wole Soyinka, winner of the 1986 Nobel prize for literature and mune from Abacha's repression. Tipped off that his arrest was im-

minent, Soyinka slipped out of Nigeria in 1994, saying the country was "retreating into the Dark Ages". That did not stop Abacha from charging him in absentia with treason, a crime punishable by death.

But no act drew such public condemnation as the 1995 hanging of environmentalist and playwright Ken Saro-Wiwa and eight other political activists convicted in a closed military tribunal of conspiring in the slaying of political opponents.

Critics said the charges were false. Abacha's revenge for Saro-Wiwa's challenges to the military goverrment and his criticism of the environmental damage wrought by the oil industry.

The brazen brutality of the act stunned the world, coming eveo as the Commoowealth and South African President Nelson Mandela appealed for mercy.

Hope for democracy vies with fears of bloodbath

THE DEATH of General Sani Abacha By RUPERT CORNWELL plunges Africa's most populous country into fresh uncertainty, poised between fears that another brutal military regime will assume power and fragile hopes that his disappearance could lead to more democratic government and the country's reacceptance by the international community.

The immediate concern in London last night was for stability, and the need to avoid a bloodbath that might be triggered by fighting among the military, or by civilian protests in support of a return of democracy. "Obviously what we want is the restoration of a democratic government," one official said, "but the important thing right now is to prevent civil order breaking down."

The odds, it was acknowledged, must be on another instalment of mil-

itary rule to follow General Abacha, who took power in 1993 and established one of the world's most brutal regimes. "He was the worst of a had bunch," a Western diplomat said, "but there are plenty of others who could take over." A spokesman for Amnesty International expressed the hope that Nigeria's burnan rights record would improve; "But we just don't know, we have to wait and see."

After the execution of the activist Ken Saro-Wiwa in 1995, Nigeria became an international pariah, suspended from the Commonwealth, subject to a wide-ranging arms embargo and shorn of most political and cultural links with Europe. It faced oil sanctions and the possibility of outright expulsion from the Comracy and human rights for the country's 104 million inhabitants.

Until yesterday, that prospect seemed next to impossible, after 33 political executions in 1997 alone, and the rigged nomination of Abacha as sole candidate in presidential elections scheduled for no later than October. Even now it is unlikely.

But some experts believe the prospect of oil sanctions had seriously worried the regime, and General Abacha's successor could seek to rebuild international fences. But the Commonwealth is split over Nigeria. whose case was being handled by an action group of eight members, CMAG. Some, such as Canada, favoured draconian measures; others, including Malaysia and Zimbabwe. were more cautious - and they prevailed at the Commonwealth summit mouwealth unless it restored democ- in Edinburgh last October.

French pilots' strike heads for showdown

hardened yesterday into a bat- in Paris tie of wills which could make or break the state-owned airline: The company is expected to

impose a disputed pay cut on its pilots, and withdraw a compensating offer of shares, at a special board meeting tomorrow. The largest pilots' union they would "stay out of our aircraft... until the bitter end."

The dispute is also developing into one of the defining moments of the administration of Lionel Jospin. After slithering towards a classically French appeasement of the strikers last week, the Socialist-led government has now decided to back the hard line taken by Air France managers.

If this stand is maintained, it would be the first clear example of any French government, of right or left, holding the line against a malcontent special interest group in recent years. In the middle of last week the

government, under pressure from the Communist Transport Minister, Jean-Claude Gayssot, hinted that it would find taxpayers' cash to subsidise a compromise deal with the pilots. It emerged yesterday that such a subsidy, in the form of reduced employment

IN A growing offensive against

Palestinians living in and

around the old city of

Jerusalem, radical Jewish set-

tiers yesterday took over four

houses in the district of Silwan.

just outside the city's Ottoman

walls. The move came in the

middle of the night and led to

demonstrations in which Feisal

Husseini, the senior Palestinian

official in the city was hit by a

group, said it had covertly

bought the houses some time

ago. Two weeks ago. Ateret Cohanim (the Crown of the

Elad, the Jewish settler

THE AIR France pilots' strike By JOHN LICHFIELD

position from the Finance Minister, Dominique Strauss-Kahn.

At the end of the week, with the pilots bolding out for even more, Mr Jospin decided to back his Finance Minister against the Transport Minister. warned that, if this happened, a decision which could ultimately cause strife within the Socialist-Communist-Green coalition.

This was one reason why Air France was unable to meet the pilots' demands, sending the negotiations skidding off the runway on Saturday. There is also, however, a growing sense among other Air France employees that the largest pilots' union, the Société Nationale des Pilotes de Ligne (SNPL), has dangerously overplayed its cards. Four smaller unions repsenting pilots broke ranks with the SNPL yesterday and put forward a possible com-

promise settlement. The fact that the eight-dayold strike has dragged on into the week of the opening game of the World Cup is intensely embarrassing for Air France and for the French government, But it has also removed the controls of the dispute from the pilots' hands. Little more damage can charges, ran into adamant op- be done to the reputation of Air

Jewish settlers step up pressure

Priests), started building

shacks to stake a claim to land

close to Herod's Gate in the

Muslim quarter of the old city.

Silwan is the site of the so-called

City of David and has long

spokesman for Benjamin Ne-

tanyahu, the Israeli Prime Min-

ister said: "This is absolutely a

legal transaction." He said the

authorities had no intention of

evicting the settlers. The last Is-

raeli government stopped Muslim mosques of al-Aqsa Ateret Cohanim and Elad open- and the Dome of the Rock.

David Bar-Illan, the

been targeted by settlers.

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

France - or France. The man agement and government have therefore decided to tough it out

with the pilots. This new situation explains the SNPL's offer - accepted by management - to provide unpaid pilots for flights for World Cup teams and fans. It also explains Air France's decision to stop talking and impose a unilateral pay cut tomorrow.

By imposing a settlement, the government and the airline might at least rescue the planned partial privatisation of the national flag-carrier next autumn. The danger is that the airline will be left so weakened by a prolonged dispute that both an ambitious investment programme and the partial sell-off will be wrecked. If so, the whole future of Air France might he threatened.

Air France had asked pilots to take a 15 per cent pay cut in return for shares in the company. It agreed several consion last week, including the restoration of the pay cuts after a number of years and the abolition of the separate payscales for new, and long-serving, pilots introduced a year ago. Talks broke off after the pilots insisted that the higher pay scale, not a compromise between the two, must be the basis for any agreement.

ly taking over properties be-

cause an official report found

they had illegally received

they have to come in the mid-

dle of the night? Why do they

to take over houses in Silwan

the day Mr Netanyahu was

elected in 1995. It is extending

its control on a spine of land

below the Western Wall, sa-

cred to Jews, and the Haram al-

Sharif, on which stand the

have to put up barbed wire?"

Feisal Hussein said: "Why do

Elad renewed its campaign

government funds.

IN BRIEF

Yeltsin in Bonn

BORIS YELTSIN arrived in Germany yesterday to seek succour from his best foreign friend. Helmut Kohl

As the men met in Bonn for talks, ahead of a G7 meeting in Paris this week, German officials made it clear that they were not inclined to offer bilateral foreign aid to Moscow, which is reeling after pressure on the rouble forced it briefly to raise interest rates to 150 per cent. Nor, on the face of it, is Moscow looking for any

N-plant fury

DESPITE STRONG protest from anti-nuclear campaigners and neighbouring Austria, Slovakia yesterday started up its controversial nuclear power plant at Mochovce 72 miles east of Austria, which has campaigned against its activation.

The Austrian Chancellor, Viktor Klima, condemned the start-up, as "an irresponsible and unfriendly act."

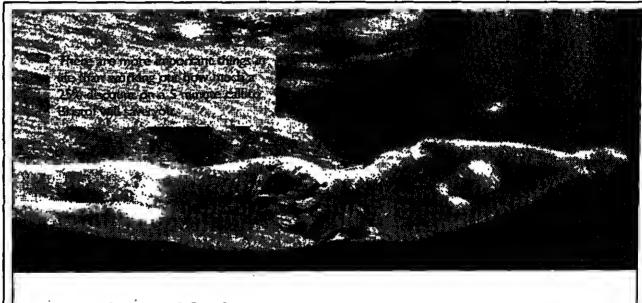
Singer charged

DANA INTERNATIONAL the Israeli transsexual who won this year's Eurovision Song Contest, was charged yesterday with assaulting two waitresses.

Prosecutors allege that the singer, who denied the charges, pushed one of the waitresses and threw a bottle of water at another at a performance at a café in November 1995.

Island hopping

A FLYING column of grasshoppers at least 7 miles long swarmed into the capital of the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar yesterday, witnesses said. The government has set up a crisis cell to deal with the largest invasion.



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Stolen idol: the theft of a gold statue has left a trail of murder and revealed a murky Middle-Eastern underworld

Curse of ancient Babylon claims 13

BY PATRICK COCKBURN

IT IS a golden Babylonian statue 50cm high and it has already caused the violent death of 13 people. It is said to be worth at least \$1m and to have been stolen from the Iraqi museum in Baghdad and smuggled into Jordan.

The revelations about the statue and how its theft led to a spectacular string of murders in the Jordanian capital, Amman, follows the arrest of the killers after a gun battle with police late last month.

Jordanian police say that a quar-rel over distribution of the profits from the sale of the statue in Europe led the smugglers, on 17 January, to stab to death Namir Ochi, an Iraqi businessman who was working with them. The smugglers also killed seven others who were in the same villa as Mr Ochi, including the Iraqi deputy ambassador to Jordan, Hikmat al-Hajou.

The second crime was equally savage and occurred three months later. According to leaks from the Jordanian security services, one of the eight killers suffered a nervous breakdown following the murders he helped carry out. He visited a prominent psychiatrist in Amman, Dr Awni Saad, to discuss his troubles.

The conscience-stricken murderer may not have revealed details of his crime, but other members of the gang did not want to take a chance. On 8 April they visited Dr Saad's clinic and shot him dead. Minntes later, Hanna Naddey, one of Jordan's leading lawyers and a legal adviser to King Hussein, arrived, apparently by chance, with his son to visit Dr Saad. They were also

A week later, the gang carried out another murder, this time of a taxi driver who was one of their members. He was killed on 16 April and his body was left in the boot of a car in Wadi Sir in west Amman. Two weeks

passed before it was discovered. The breakthrough in the three at the police department in Amman. cases came six weeks later Police first Naddey's credit card in his pocket. Then, accompanied by a special Jordanian army unit, led by Prince Abdullah, King Hussein's eldest son. they raided an apartment occupied by two men in the district of Sahhab, in south-east Amman, on 25 May. Agun battle followed. Three policemen men in the apartment shot himself to death, according to a police statement.



Headdress, left, and figure of a goat, from the same excavation at Ur as the stolen golden statue

reticent about details of the crimes for two reasons. It does not want to stress Iraqi involvement as this might anger Baghdad, with whom it has had cool relations recently.

After the murders in January, Jordan hinted at the involvement of Iraqi security forces. "The stabbing was carried out by professional murderers," said Dr Moumin al-Hadid, director of forensic medicine

In the wake of last month's arrested four suspects. One had Mr arrests, Abdullah Nsour, Jordan's deputy prime minister, said: "Investigations show there are no political motives behind the crime. The motives were financial." However, an Iraqi observer said he doubted if a treasure from the Iraqi Museum, which has been shut since 1990, could have been removed withwere slightly wounded and one of the out the connivance of somebody in authority in Baghdad.

Jordan is also keen not to shake

Namir Ochi, the killers' first target, was from a well-known family of Chaldean Christians from Kirkuk in Iraq. He had limited private wealth and lived in Lebanon, but his brother Nazmi, a long-term resident of the UK, controls companies worth \$1.2bn.

Nazmi is one of Jordan's largest private investors and King Hussein recently laid the foundation stone for a hotel complex in Amman being built by one of his companies. He stresses he has no business links with Baghdad.

Namir Ochi had never broken his links with Iraq, though in 1986 a third Ochi brother, Nasser, was executed for allegedly offering a bribe. General Muhi al-Din, head of Jordanian general security, says Namir owned a restaurant in Baghdad. It was managed for him by Mo-

hammed Omar Yusuf al-Jaghamin, a Palestinian born in Galilee, in what is now Israel, but with a Jorthe confidence of foreign investors. danian passport. General al-Din

says Jaghamin was the leader of the gang which helped Namir Ochi smuggle antiques out of Iraq.

Iraq is one of the great archaeological treasure houses of the world. It was the site of the Sumerian, Babylonian and Assyrian civilisations. In 1990, in the expectation that the invasion of Kuwait would lead to war, the Iraqi Museum, in the heart of the capital, was closed.

Muwwayeed Saced, director general of Iraq's Department of Antiquities, told The Independent at the time that he had put the treasures, such as the gold and jewellery from the royal cemetery at Ur (2450BC). into the vaults of the central bank.

Seven years later the museum has not reopened, but the Arabic daily Ashsharq al-Awsat cites Jordanian security forces as saying that objects it once had on display are being smuggled abroad and sold. Although Jordan is keen to play

down the gang's Iraqi connection,

survivor of the evening.

Photographs: Werner Forman Archive; British Museum

the smugglers were mostly Jordanian-Palestinians living in Baghdad. One had even served in the Iraqi army during the invasion

They knew they were playing for high stakes: Iraq has executed people caught smuggling antiquities. They were being paid 10 per cent of the value of the goods they smugded, but by the start of this year they had become convinced they were being short-changed by Namir Ochi.

At issue was the golden statue. According to police leaks, Namir told them he had sold it for \$1m. They believed the real figure to be far higher. On 17 January they came to exact revenge at a luxury house in the Rabiya district of Amman owned by an Iraqi businessman, also a Christian, called Sami George, 63. He lived there with his Greek girlfriend Diotisios Lidaki, 57, who was the only

From the beginning, the smug-

glers demonstrated systematic ferocity. Sami George's red-tiled villa is isolated from other houses. Neighbours were unlikely to hear shouts and screams. In any case the killers used knives rather than guns.

First they knocked on the door. When it was answered by Mr George's Egyptian bodyguard they stabbed him to death along with an Egyptian friend.

Ms Lidaki says the killers tied up and gagged their victims. She says they spoke Arabic with Iraqi accents and were waiting for Namir Ochi. When he arrived, she said Ochi and the gang members "exchanged accusations, and the Iragis said he owed them large sums of money. Ochi refused their demands, so they stabbed him and attacked all those

Ms Lidaki only survived because her throat was slashed rather than if somebody is systematically looting cut, and a knife thrust missed her and smuggling abroad the treasures heart. The murderers showed great of the ancient civilisations of Iraq.



Hajou: murdered by the gang of smugglers

calmness, in that they stayed in the villa with their victims for three hours, waiting for Namir Ochl to arrive. Just before they left, Hikmat al-Hajou, the Iraqi deputy ambassador, drove up with his Egyptianborn wife. Leila Shaaban, Their late-night arrival is not surprising as it was ifter, the feast which ends the daily fast during the Muslim month of Ramadan. The diplomat and his wife were also killed.

Attention first focused on the death of Mr Hajou, despite Ms Lidaki's evidence that the killers' quarrel was with Mr Ochi. It was assumed they had fled the country, most probably to Iraq. In reality the gang, which had at least eight members, never left Amman. They might have escaped had one of their members not sought psychiatric help from Dr Saad. Once again they were determined to leave no witness

Mr Naddey, 75, a prominent busi nessman as well as a lawyer, and his son Suheil, 34, lost their lives because they saw Dr Saad's car outside his clinic and could not understand why he wouldn't answer when they rang the bell. When." Mr Naddey told his son to call the police, the killers opened the door and shot both of them dead.

Six of the gang are now in prison. in Jordan and two are dead. A seventh member, said by some to be the organiser of the smuggling operation, has escaped to Europe. Nobody knows the fate of the golden statue from Babylon, whose ability to ignite violence so resembles the story of the 1940s film The Mattese Folcon.

Archaeologists also want to know







A soap opera revolving around cruelty, fatalism and wit

THE SMELL of smoke from real coal fires stirred something deep inside me when I first crossed the Soviet border in 1985. It took me straight back to my early childhood in working-class West Yorkshire in the 1950s.

I was entering a country that has always been and still remains unfathomable to foreigners, a state where totalitarianism was just starting to be dismantled, and yet, on one level, I felt instantly at home.

It is a mystery why Russian television now has to import foreign soap operas when life itself in Russia is one long soap opera, more satisfying even than Coronation Street. Despite all the changes under Mikhail Gorbachev and Boris Yeltsin, most Russians still live in the kind of poverty we knew in Britain immediately after

It makes for a back-to-back com-street, which is on an incline. A loosmunity life that is at once cosy and stifling. In a way, I belong to that community as I am married to a Russian I have a Russian motherin-law and Russian friends.

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Solate (Inches)

My husband, Costya Gagarin (no relation to the first man in space), and I live on Samotechny Lane. The word is spelt "samotechny" but pronounced "samatyochny". It means "freely flowing", presumably a reference to the

STREET LIFE SAMOTECHNY LANE Moscow



er translation might be "Go With

The Flow" Lane. To survive in Russia, that is what you must do - go with the flow, accept what life brings. In the West, people have a fair degree of control over their lives. Russians are more subject to arbitrary forces and cope by adopting an Asiatic fa-

Costya, being a "New Russian" businessman complete with morainwater that runs down the bile telephone, is able to provide

Hubertus Golsteijn

Timur, a former space physicist, tells Helen he is shutting up shop

me with a home that meets west-Galina Alexandrovna, a pensioner who has moved out to her wooden cottage in the countryside and gets by thanks to the rent we pay for her town flat. When she comes for the money, she always brings us jam or pickled cucumbers from her dacha.

Costya and I enjoy the luxury of space. The two of us have three large converted rooms, plus a kitchen and bathroom with Finnish

fittings. But our neighbours still live ern standards. Our landlady is in "communal flats", three families crammed into one apartment, each family with just a room, and shared cooking and washing facilities. You can imagine the range of possible passions in such confined condi-

The entranceway and stairs leading to the flats belong to nobody and are therefore filthy and stink of urine. Graffiti covers the walls. Outside our door is an accurately drawn penis with the words "Tor-

pedo of Ivan the Terrible". It sums up everything about Russia: the cruelty, the fatalism, the humour. It was probably drawn by kids

from the "rough family" immedi-

ately downstairs. That family's matriarch is Tanya, a frowzy but good-hearted single-mother, who is always ready to lend or borrow a cup of sugar. She feeds ber kids by renting out her rooms to Azeri guest workers. who sell fruit on the local market.

The Azeris close their ears to the

overtly racist slurs of other neigh-bours, work from morning till night, behave impeccably and are going up in the world. They have just bought a new car. But Tanya finds it difficult to control her own children. Her eldest son, Lyosha, has just come out of prison, where he served a short sentence for car theff. He is a yoh.

Lyosha keeps me awake at 3am with his loud pop music. But with him around, I know that nobody will dare lay a finger on my battered cherry Niva or Russian-made jeep, essential for trips into the muddy countryside.

On Samotechny Lane, there is no equivalent of the Rovers Return. We all know that Russians drink, perhaps more heavily than any other nation in the world. But they do not do it in pubs, rather around the kitchen table, which is the focus of community life here.

Recently an English-style pub called the "John Bull" opened in Moscow. I tried it out. The barman pulled me half a bitter, served me a pile of crisps on a gold-edged dinner plate and charged me \$10 one tenth of the average Russian

"Let's get out of here," said the Russian friend who was with me. Cost is not the only consideration for Russians, who have avoided eating and drinking in public since Soviet times, when you could never

be quite sure wbether or not the chap at the next table was a KGB

Home is where Russian life happens, and in the back vard - and. to an increasing extent, in the new private corner shops. Next to my scummy local pond, delightfully named "Andropov's Puddle" whether after ex-Soviet leader Yuri Andropov I cannot say - there is a mini-mart with smiling service, if high prices.

And behind the Children's Park is a pet shop where I have been a regular customer since my veteran ginger cat, Minky, went AWOL and the local kids brought me a series of stray Minky lookalikes. The owner is a mustachioed Georgian former space physicist called Timur Gagua

When I went in yesterday to spend more on cat meat than the average Russian housewife would spend on a family meal, I found Timur almost crying into his drooping moustache. "The shop is closing down next week because we can't afford the rent hike."

And so, no sooner have I started this Russian soap opera than it seems I am killing off one of the characters. But I have Timur's telephone number. He is a very interesting man and I think he may return as a visitor to Samotechny

HELEN WOMACK

Kohl's rottweiler is called to heel



Photograph: Reuters

IT WAS Otto "Fastlips" Hauser's BY IMRE KARACS fourth outing before the press yesterday and, contrary to expectations, not the last. The firing squad that despatched his predecessor a mere fortnight ago had run out of either bullets or replacements.

After a meeting of the top eadership of Chancellor Kohl's Christian Democrats, the German government spokesman was reprieved. But not forgiven, no matter how humbly he grovelled yesterday. He promised to "concentrate" henceforth on his job as "government spokesman", instead of acting as the Chancellor's battering ram in an increasingly dirty election campaign.

Mr Hauser, a failed journalist with suave looks hailing not that far from Rottweil, is also a Christian Democrat MP and has been having problems distinguishing between the two roles. Among the venues he was forced to visit on his knees yesterday was the Bonn press corps, whose members had already tired of Mr Hauser's one-sided party propaganda.

That might seem like a job well done, but Mr Hauser's bosses at the Chancellery did not see it that way. For during his short tenure in the new job. the spokesman had piled indiscretion upon indiscretion, unwittingly revealing his masters' darkest thoughts about the

It is customary at the time of elections to remind voters of the pecially if the government of the and often juvenile - coalition

day happens to be on the skids. But to spell out the link between voting records and the stations at which the gravy train might call is unusual in a democracy.

Mr Hauser was new to this game and unaware of the unwritten rules. He had been hired for his aggression, and did not want to let his bosses down.

The Christian Democrats are deeply offended that their party, lead by the "Chancellor of German unity", is even less popular in the east than the almost-communist Party of Democratic Socialism, Mr Hauser, naturally, has an opinion on that: "We help reconstruction in the east and then they vote for the left," he fumed last week, drawing parallels in passing between the PDS and the Nazis.

Ossi ingratitude, he suggested, was in danger of "overtaxing the solidarity of Wes Germans". Solidarity is expressed in the "solidarity surcharge" on German income tax, which pays for all the roads, rail links and new recreation centres for the unemployed being built in the east. Questioning such commitment has so far been taboo.

And remains so, as the hapless spokesman soon discovered. Almost nobody failed to protest against his analysis. The PDS and Jewish groups were mortally insulted by the Nazi analogy. The Free Dedebts they owe their leaders, es- mocrats, Mr Kohl's junior -

partners called for Mr Hauser's PDS in the east at the expense sacking. The opposition tried vainly to keep up with the odium Mr Hauser's party col-

leagues were pouring on him.

The gnashing of teeth in Christian Democrat offices in the east could be beard in Bonn. "Voting behaviour in the east and west should have no impact on the continuation of this work," thundered Kurt Biedenkopf, the influential CDU Prime Minister of Saxony. "Any other road would endanger the success of German unification." Not to mention the success of the CDU, he nearly

Wolfgang Kubicki, an executive member of the Free Democrats, admitted that much when he said the infamous remarks would strengthen the ernment spokesman and be

of the conservative coalition. "If Mr Hauser has a jot of self-respect he will resign," Mr Kubicki said. "If not, Kohl must fire him."

Still Mr Hauser kept busy. He lobbed grenades into the Social Democrats' camp, spreading communist innuendo about Gerhad Schröder, the SPD's chancellor-candidate, He even found time to cause offence among the foreign press corps.

Upon being asked to say a few words in English to the English service of Deutsche Welle, the German equivalent of the BBC World Service, Mr Hauser came up with the following well-considered statement: "I speak English very well, but I am the German gov-

speaks in German ... Go get yourself a translator. I don't see why I should answer questions in any other language."

In his defence, Mr Hauser said he was too busy at the time, and yesterday he called Deutsche Welle offering to be interviewed - in English. He also tried to excuse some of his wildest remarks by arguing that they had been made whilst wearing a party hat.

Not everyone in the party is prepared to swallow that line. however. "I am not in favour of an MP being allowed to speak more nonsense than a government spokesman," was how Wolfgang Schauble appraised Mr Hauser's work.

But Mr Hauser must be retained because to lose two spokesmen in a row so close to

September's elections would be seen as carelessness. Meanwhile, through no effort of his own, the campaign he was to galvanise has fallen further into disarray

As the Christian Democrats were trying to limit the damage yesterday, the dykes were hursting elsewhere. In an interview released ahead of publication, Guido Westerwelle. General Secretary of the Free Democrats, volunteered to be the first to pronounce the political death of Helmut Kohl. "The post-Kohl era has already begun," he told Stern magazine, adding that his party might switch sides and join a Social Democrat-led cabinet after the elections. Poor Mr Hauser must now try to spin that into

a "Vote Kohl" message.

Eritrea holds border town

ERITREAN forces were establishing control of Zalambessa yesterday, despite Ethiopian claims to have recaptured the key border town.

Newspapers in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, reported on Sunday that Ethiopian troops had recaptured the town, which fell to Eritrean forces last Tuesday.

But journalists travelled more than 12 miles into Ethiopian territory with Eritrean troops yesterday, passing through the heavily fortified border town, which is 60 miles south of the Eritrean capital, Asmara.

Bodies of Ethiopians killed when the town fell last Tuesday lay rotting in the streets. The Eritrean troops explained that it was not their responsibility. to bury the dead of their

The neighbouring countries remain on a war footing. Hopes are slim that a new peace initiative will emerge from Africa's annual summit of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), being held in Burkina

Faso this week. The pan-African body which may have been hampered by the fact that its headquarters is located in Ethiopia and that Eritrea has little time for the organisation - has played a back-seat role since

By MANOAH ESIPISU in Zalambessa

the first armed clash on the border on 6 May

At the weekend, OAU foreign ministers called for a cessation of hostilities and backed a US and Rwandan mediation ini-

The plan calls for Eritrean forces to withdraw to their pre-6 May positions and for a demilitarised border.

So far, fears that Ethiopia's stronger air force would resume strikes on Eritrea's capital have proved unfounded. The raids last Friday and Sat-

urday sparked a massive rescue operation by western governments, Russia and the United Nations. Nearly 2,000 foreigners were evacuated by air from Asmara over the weekend.

The governments of Ethiopia and Eritrea both emerged from guerrilla movements, which fought together in a marathon rebellion to overthrow Ethiopia's regime.

They succeeded in getting rid of the harsh and unpopular pro-Soviet government of Col Mengistu in 1991 and two years later the Eritreans were awarded their independence from Ethiopia.

The new state even inherited the entire seaboard of the former Ethiopia.

EU freezes Serb assets

EUROPEAN foreign ministers
yesterday warned President
Slobodan Milosevic of Yugoslavia they were ready to intervene to stop the "ethnic cleansing" of Albanians in Ser-

bia's Kosovo province. Ministers agreed to freeze Serbian assets and ban new European investment there, and signalled support for military

action if necessary. . In a statement, ministers said: "The European Union remains ready to press ahead with other measures against Belgrade if the authorities there fail to halt their excessive

use of force." They encouraged international security organisations to consider all options", including force.

"Modern Europe will not tolerate the full might of any power being used against civilian centres of population," Mr Cook said after the Luxembourg meeting.

war but everyone agreed that when you are dealing with Slobodan Milosevic you can exchide no option."

A Foreign Office spokesman said: "Nobody was saying we have to decide today to go to

Germany the Netherlands and the British EU presidency led calls for a hardine approach and although that was balanced by a softer line from the French,

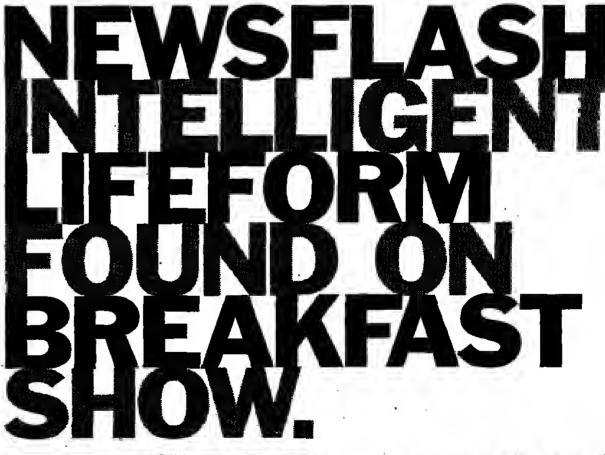
the statement that emerged was tougher than expected.

Mr Milosevic was condemned for "a campaign of violence going far beyood what could legitimately be described as a targeted anti-terrorist operation". There was "a new level of aggression on the part of the Serb security forces". The Serb leader was urged to withdraw its "special" police units from Kosovo immediately.

Klaus Kinkel, foreign minister of Germany, which fears an influx of refugees, predicted great resistance in the UN Security Council to military intervention and said it might be more realistic to push instead for a beefed-up observer mis-

sion in Kosovo. In Washington, Bill Clinton's National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said the issue of military intervention was not at this stage under discussion. In Kosovo, foreign diplomats

caught their first glimpses of the devastation inflicted on separatist strongholds, after being escorted to the west of the province by the Serb authorities. "What we've seen is all sorrow, all grief - villages burned and destroyed, all the people had left," said the Dutch ambassador Jan Sizoo.





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BUSINESS

BRIEFING

Report warns of economic weaknesses A YEAR ago the economists of the Bank for International Settlements saw some of the potential tensions in East Asia that lead to the collapses there.

Now they warn of continuing tensions as the dollar climbs and the US current account deficit mounts; a European Central Bank struggling to balance the different monetary needs of core and fringe Europe; and an Asian crisis that is still far from resolved. Harnish McRae examines the new BIS report, page 21.



Unigate still wants parts of Hillsdown

UNIGATE, THE fresh foods and dairy group which dramatically abandoned a £1.6bn hid for Hillsdown Holdings last month, said yesterday that it remained interested in acquiring parts of Hillsdown hut was unlikely to launch another bid. "We

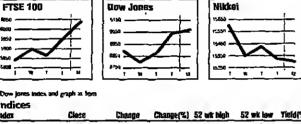
can't see the circumstances under which we would go back for the whole of Hillsdown," said Sir Ross Buckland, Unigate's chief executive. Investment Column 23.

British Land attacks tax changes

INNER CITY redevelopment is being held hack because of the government's "insidious" and "unpredictable" tax system, said a key developer, British Land, yesterday.

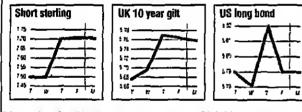
The company reported a 39 per cent increase in pre-tax profits to £127.2m, but said tax changes had limited its increased net asset value to 592p instead of 628p. Investment Column 23

STOCK MARKETS



dez	Close	Change	Change(%)	52 wit high	52 wk low	Yield(%)
TSE 100	6037.80	90.50	1.52	6150.50	4382.80	3.87
SE 250	5980.30	25.70	0.43	5935.00	4384.20	3.02
SE 350	2935.80	38,10	1.32	2938.70	2141.80	3.71
SE All Share	2868 10	35.30	1 25	2861,12	2106.59	3.66
SE \$madCap	2782.70	7.30	0.26	2793.80	2182 10	2.95
SE Fledgling	1516.50	8.40	0.56	1511.00	1225 20	2.97
SE AIM	1146.90	2.30	0.20	1144.60	965.90	1.08
SE EBLOC 100	1064.17	8.33	0.79			
ow Jones	9069.35	29,40	0.33	9261,91	6971.32	1.57
ikkei	15294.71	-28,72	-0.19	20910.79	14488.21	1.00
ang Seng	8586,63	17 16	0.20	16820.31	7909.13	4,81
ax	5779.09	90.59	1.59	5688.73	3487,24	2.75

INTEREST RATES



Мопеу	Marke	t Rates			Bond	Yields		
lpdex	3 mostin	1 yr chg	1 year	1 yr chg	10 year	1 yr chg	Lang bood	1 yr cl
ŪK	7,69	1.00	7.69	0.63	5.76	· 1.29	5.50	-1.6
UK US	5.69	-0 13	5 88	-0.34	5.58	-0.96	5.79	-1.0
Japan	0.55	-0.05	0.58	-0.36	1.44	· 1.30	1.95	-1.3
Germany	3.56	0.41	3.88	0.56	4.85	-0.95	5.40	-12

Price (p) Chy (p) & Chyp Falls

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Woolwich Royal 8 Scot	355.00 1127.00	19.75 62.00	5.89 5.82	Signet group Glynwed Inti Cairn Energy	51.25 297.5 330	2.5 14 15	5.13 5.11 4.76
CURRE	NCIE	S					
\$/E		DM 2920	V£		·/£		
150	1	29159 2910 7.905	1		25		

163 -			2.905 2.905 2.805 2.600 1 W			~	
Pound	at Spor	Change	Yr Aga	Dollar	at Spen	~	
Dollar	1.6330	-0.27c	1.6356	Sterling	0.6124	+0.10p	0.611
O. Mark	2 0051	+D 4End	0.7040	D. Mard	4 7705	200	

Pound				Dollar			
	at Spar	Charge	Yr Age		at 6pm;	Charge	Yr A
<u>Dolkar</u>	1.6330	-0.27c	1.6356	Sterling	0.6124	+0.100	0.61
0-Mark	2.9061	+0.45pf	2.7913	D-Mark	1.7785	+0.35pt	1.70
Yen	229.49	+Y1.08	185.25	Yen	140.55	+Y0.90	112.
2 index	103.60	+0.00	99.60	\$ Index	112.10	+0.40	103.
A				_			

OTHER INDICATORS

									BMW dealerships.
Brent Oil (S)	(7860	Chig	Yr Ago		lede:	Char	Yz agg	Hext Ags	Production is due to begin in 2000
Brent Oil (S)	13.60	-0.20	17.20	GDP	114.70	2.90	111,47	Aug	and will reach 100,000 a year - six times
Gold (S)	292.95	1.30	343.65	RPI	152.60	4.00	156.35	Jun	
Silver (S)	5.26	0.02	4.90	Base I	Rates	7.50	6.50		at least £12,000 compared with £9,500
			<i>(-1-</i>						for the current version and £426 for the

www.bloomberg.com/uk

SOURCE: BLOOMBERG

Price (p) Chy (p) % Chys

140 96

EXCHANGE RATES

Australia (S)	2.6384	Japan (yen)	224.99
Austria (schillings)	19.76	Malaysia (ringgits)	6.2436
Beigium (francs)	58 09	Matta (lira)	0.6171
Canada (S)	2.3224	Netherlands (guilders)	3.1671
Cyprus (pounds)	0.8246	New Zealand (S)	3.0913
Denmark (krone)	10.79	Norway (krone)	11.88
Finland (markka)	8.6026	Portugal (escudos)	285.12
France (francs)	9.4374	Singapore (\$)	2.5665
Germany (marks)	2.8234	Spain (pesetas)	238.48
Greece (drachma)	475.98	South Africa (rands)	8.0923
Hong Kong (\$)	12.26	Sweden (krone)	12.50
ireland (punts)	1.1140	Switzerland (francs)	2.3537
indian (rupees)	62,68	Thalland (bahts)	84.14
Israel (shekels)	5.4 <u>968</u>	Turkey (firasi)	404 <u>5</u> 91
Market of Comb	2792	LICA (E)	4 5040

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Banks given Asia warning

FINANCIAL MARKETS and policymakers are in danger of complacency in the aftermath of the Asian financial crisis, according to a hardhitting new analysis from the Bank for International Settlements (BIS).

In its annual report on the past year's events in the global capital markets, the central bankers' central bank gives a sharp caution that the blame for the turmoil cannot be placed on the afflicted Asian countries alone. Banks and investors had lent incautiously in a herd-like fashion, and are still doing so, it says.

The report, published the day the

dollar surged to a new seven year high above ¥140, also warns of emerging imbalances in the world economy due to the strength of the US currency.

Economi es Editor

The resport's figures show that Asia suffered in massive reversal of capital flows, with a \$62bn inflow in the first half of 1917 turning into a \$100bn outflow in the second half. But total bank lending and other activity in the international capital markets soared Gross bar, k lending totalled \$1.3tm, up from \$551 bn in 1996.

The BI;S concludes: "The financial services industry has clearly entered a period oil sharply increased competition and :some banks may have been tempted bi) engage in unusually risky business." Banks had "generally ig-nored" signs of mounting risks in

countries, the report questions whether the current patchwork of national regulatory structures is adequate to supervise an industry increasingly consolidated across

The reaction to future crises must include a better response from lenders themselves, with the private sector needing "to take some responsibility for the ongoing provision of credit to customers to whom they had previously lent all too freely."

If it turned out that individual banks had underestimated the risks because they were unaware of the total scale of lending in Asia, "this would in Asia. Although it accepts the need for itself provide an argument for some

annual report 12 months ago had drawn attention to over-investment in the region.

The one group of investors exonerated of any responsibility for the crisis are hedge-fund managers like George Soros. They had cut back their exposure long before it began, whereas banks continued lending up to the last minute, the report con-

In its general assessment of the state of the world economy, the BIS remains optimistic about growth in the US and UK, but cautious about the outlook for the euro-member countries and Japan

The biggest risk for the US is posed

thorough financial reform and in-creased transparency in the affected BIS said. But it pointed out that its own cites showing it could be as much as 40-50 per cent overvalued against the yen.

A yawning US trade deficit could trigger either a sharp drop in the currency at some stage, which in turn could trigger inflation, prompt higher interest rates and burst the share price bubble. Alternatively, it could give rise to protectionist mea-

The report said the transition to the euro had gone remarkably smoothly but dangers remained in the pressure that expensive social security systems would place on government finances. "Fiscal balances could deteriorate sharply in coming decades," it warns. Outlook, page 19

Wells Fargo and Norwest announce £21bn merger

TWO MORE US banks have announced plans to tie the knot, the fourth multihillion-pound deal in the industry

Wells Fargo, based in San Francisco, and Norwest Corporation, of Minneapolis, are to join forces in a \$35bn (£21hn) merger. The new bank, to be called Wells Fargo & Company. will be the US's seventh largest in terms of asset size and fourth largest in terms of market capitalisation.

News of the deal sent US stocks soaring in early trade. Wells Fargo was up \$4.25 at \$367.50, while Norwest was trading down \$2.121/2 at \$37.561/4.

Richard M Kovacevich, chairman and chief executive of Norwest and president and chief executive designate of the new company, said the merger would unite high-performing companies with complementary businesses, products, markets, technology and customers. As with the recent tie-ups between

NationsBank/BankAmerica and Banc One/First Chicago, the rationale for the deal was primarily cost-cutting, according to most analysts. The two banks hope to save at least \$650m in costs a year by the third year after the

New Mini

to be sold

in US for

first time

THE MINI is set to go on sale in Amer-

ica for the first time when it appears

in its new incarnation at the turn of the

millennium. The latest version of the

world's best selling small car is likely to be sold in the US through BMW's

However, the greatest demand for the new Mini is likely to come from

Japan - already the higgest market in

BMW, which acquired the famous

marque when it bought Rover in 1994,

yesterday announced plans to distribute and sell the new Mini separately through a hand-picked network of dealers. In the UK alone, more than

£100m will be invested in the Mini deal-

er network, drawn from existing Rover

Cars dealerships. Sales of the car in

the rest of the world, with the excep-

tion of Japan, will be handled through

original version designed by Sir Alex

The £400m investment in the new

Mini will safeguard 2,500 johs at

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

dealer network.

the world for the car.

BY LEA PATTERSON

Recent US banking deals

April 7: Tr avelers Group and Citicorp a prounce \$70hn merger

April 14: El ankAmerica and NationsBank say they are to join force:: in \$60hn deal. Banc One and First Chicago NBD announce \$30bn link-np. April 22: B: ank of New York launches : 1:25bn bid for Mellon Bank. Bid is withdrawn one month later after Mellon rebuffs Baink of New York's approach. .

June 8: Weills Fargo and Norwest a mounce \$35bn deal.

The two hanks yesterday tried to play down feat is of job cuts, saying any lay-offs would be "minimal".

Analysts added that Norwest, seen as one of the ir idustry's stars, could revitalise Wells Fargo, which has been beset by diffic titles in recent years fol-

Interstate, the Los Angeles-based Travelers Group kicked off the latest bank.

One analyst commented: "Norwest will try and rejuvenate a franchise which has been pretty beaten up."

The deal will be seen as yet another success story for Warren Bullett, the legendary billionaire investor, and a long-term shareholder in Wells Fargo.

Mr Buffett's most recent annual letter to shareholders in his Berkshire Hathaway investment vehicle revealed that the US investment guru held a 7.8 per cent stake in Wells Fargo at the end of 1997, slightly down from the 8 per cent stake he held at the end

Ironically, Mr Buffett recently warned of the dangers of the consolidation wave currently sweeping through the US banking industry. Mr Buffett told shareholders at his company's recent annual general meeting: I think when you get all through with this, you'll find that some of them are real hits and some of them are misses. They're very big and those aren't

easy to do." The Wells Fargo/Norwest merger dubbed a "merger of equals" by the two banks - is the fourth in the US lowing its \$11. 3bn acquisition of First banking industry since April, when

round of merger fever with a \$70bn tieup with Citicorp.

The Wells Fargo deal will create a banking powerhouse with 90,000 employees, 20 million customers and \$191bn assets under management. It will have the largest bank-owned insurance agency be the US's leading commercial real estate lender and rank first in mortgage originations and

Paul Hazen, currently chairman and chief executive of Wells Fargo, will become chairman of the new bank, Nancy Bush, a bank analyst at Ryan Beck & Co, said: "It's a great

deal. Everyone in the middle of the notice." Some analysts, though, were sceptical about the prospects for the group in the short- to medium-term, citing the problems experienced by Wells

state, a rival Californian bank. The Wells Fargo/First Interstate tieup, initially hailed as an out-and-out success, soon ran into difficulties when integrating the two networks hit profitability and service levels.

Fargo when it successfully completed

a \$11.3hn hostile bid for First Inter-

Gas-fired electricity stations under threat

BY MICHAEL HARRISON

More than a dozen gas-fired power stations are facing the axe as part of the Government's plans to secure the future of the coal industry. The total is thought to include a number of stations which have already been given planning consent.

Applications have been submitted to the Department of Trade and Industry to build a further 21 gas-fired stations with a total generating capacity of nearly 8,000 megawatts enough to replace 22 million tonnes of coal or the output of eight to ten pits.

However, in addition to these outstanding applications, there are a furcountry and west has to sit up and take | ther nine gas-fired stations with a combined output of 5,700 megawatts that already have section 36 planning consent. Six of these projects are out to tender.

The Government's coal rescue plan, which is expected to be unveiled this week, will either extend the existing moratorium on gas-fired stations or make consents extremely difficult to obtain. This means that many of the projects are unlikely to see the light of day, with serious knock-on effects for job creation.

One of the biggest casualties of the coal deal is likely to be BP's Baglan Bay project in South Wales - a £500m me to build an 1 100 megawatt gas-fired station in an area of high unemployment. Up to 3,000 jobs are resting on the project.

Other large stations awaiting approval include two plants at Rhosgoch and Fleetwood which the Canatxx Energy consortium has applied to build and an 1,125 megawatt station at Enderby proposed by Scottish Power.

There are about 14,000 megawatts of gas-fired plant in operation and a further 4,300 megawatts under con-

struction Electricity industry executives believe that some stations which are in the very early stages of construction, such as National Power's 1,500 megawatt Staythorpe plant, could be

vulnerable. The Government's measures to safeguard coal are likely to save about 2,000 to 3,000 jobs in the short-term. But the power station developers argue that many more jobs in the upstream gas industry and construction could disappear as a result.

The industry regulator and the Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee have both come down against continuing the moratorium on gas-fired stations. The select committee is expected to repeat those criticisms in a report being published today which will take a sideswipe at the hurried nature of the Government's current energy review.

The report is likely to reiterate that there is no case for blocking the huilding of further gas-stations and little evidence that security of supply is an issue.

However, the MPs are likely to repeat their warning in April that there is a case for maintaining the coal industry at a given size, although they are unlikely to specify a figure.

Outlook, page 19

AROUND THE WORLD'S MARKETS

September, since when it has gone

back under wraps. The original car

began life as a doodle hy Sir Alex on

LONDON

Issigonis in 1959.

Shares moved ahead strongly over a wide front. Footsie, for the first time since mid-April, topped 6,000 points, up 90.5 to 6,037.8. Second and third line shares also did well. Trading, however, was not heavy. New York's ebullient Friday performance and its continuing strength yesterday was mainly re-sponsible for London's display. Banks led the charge, as investors antici-pated more take over action on this side of the Atlantic following the latest US bank merger. Royal Bank of Scotland jumped 62p to 1.127p.

See market report, page 23.

TOKYO

Tokyo stocks ended slightly lower as the dollar broke above the ¥140 level and the approaching settlement of futures and options contracts on Friday scared many away from the market. The Nikke i average of 225 selected issues clossed at 15,294.71, down 28.72 points, while the hroader-based Toyko Stock I Price Index of all first-section listed issues finished 3.58 points lower at 1198.36. Traders said the lack of activity was related to the yen falling to a new seven-

Rover's Longbridge plant in Birmingham. Production of the current Mini

is running at 17,000 a year - of which

half are exported to Japan.

FRANKFURT

The new Mini being unveiled at the Frankfurt Motor Show last September

The new Mini was unveiled hriefly a cigarette packet and was one of the

Germany's DAX Xetra Index rose to a record high with investors optimistic that the Bundesbank will refrain from raising interest rates this week and as the US market continued to climb. Mannesmann, the German machinery and telecommunications company, led gainers after a 10-for-1 stock split on Friday and before its planned share sale for 24 June to finance its European expansion in telecommunications Germany's benchmark DAX Xetra Index of 30 companies roae 62.29 points. or 1.09 per cent, to a high of 5787,04,

French stocks rose on optimism

at the Frankfurt Motor Show last first front-wheel drive cars. The new

profits will soar as companies grow through overseas expansion. That offset a decline by Elf Aquitaine SA after oil prices fell. The benchmark CAC 40 Index gained 19.53 points, or 0.5 percent, to 4204.58, its 37th record close this year.Computer services company Cap Gemini SA gained 49 francs to 912, the biggest rise on the CAC Index. The shares have gained 89 percent this year amid hopes that demand for its services will be boosted by the European single currency

Mini will have to same compact di-

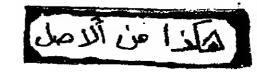
mensions hut much more advanced

technology, particularly in the area of

NEW YORK

New York stocks moved higher as news of another multibillion merger deal in the bank sector helped the market build on Friday's strong rally. when the Dow Jones surged 167 points to close above 9000 for the first time since May.

Worries about the direction of inwornes about the direction of in-terest rates pressured bonds ahead of Wednesday's congressional testi-mony by Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan. But bonds continued to receive support from the strong dollar and its advance against



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DESPITE ITS vastly-reduced size, the coal industry continues to com-mand a horrible fascination among politicians, which in turn enables it to punch way beyond its weight in any debate about energy policy. This week, government lawyers willing, the President of the Board of Trade, Margaret Beckett, will finally unveil the rescue plan for the pits. It will preserve a few thousand jobs short-term in the mining industry at the expense of a few thousand jobs in the gas and construc-tion industries. The bigger cost, however, threatens to be to New Labour's hard-won reputation as the party of business and the Government that favours robust competition.

Before anyone gets too sancti-monious it should be recognised that energy generation has never been a perfect market. Governments of all hues have interfered in it at will for reasons of dogma and political expediency. Generally, the consumer has been the loser. The previous government imposed a nuclear levy on every electricity bill to make sure the country could never again be held to ransom by the miners. Until the coal crisis burst in just before Christmas, the present administration was happy to keep the dash for gas

Now ministers have given in to the argument that a guaranteed



OUTLOOK

section of the market should be kept aside for coal. Issues such as whether it is price-competitive and the environmental impact of burning more coal come a poor second to the overriding objective of pre-serving the pits. Thus the generators will have their arms twisted to tury more coal from RBJ Mining, with the threat that a break-up of their cosy monopoly may otherwise be on the horizon. The trade off is that a halt means no new competition in the generating market.

This is a poor excuse for an energy policy - as the Labour dominated Commons Trade and Industry Select Committee is about to observe. Worse, it is a missed opportunity for Labour to demonstrate that it means what it says when it talks about open markets.

Responsibility in markets

THE BANK for International Settlements in Basle is about as grey and sober an institution as they come, run by bankers for bankers. Its annual report, packed with figures and charts, is not a document for the sensationseeking. But for all the austere and measured language, this year's edition packs a strong punch. Its bottom powerful ammunition. line: the Asian crisis is far from over, and the riotous financial markets that gave tirth to it trave not been changed by the experience either

There are two ways of looking at what happened in the Far East. One is to regard it as essentially a crisis of capitalism, proof positive that capitalism with its tendency towards the extremes of boom and bust is fundamentally flawed. Nor are those who see it this way confined to old-fashioned left-wingers eager to see capitalism at last sowing the seeds of its own destruction. Jeffrey Sachs at Harvard University could hardly be described as leftleaning yet he argues powerfully that the stresses the markets have imposed on countries like Indonesia and Malaysia would have tested any economy, the UK included, to the point of destruction

However, for staunch defenders of the free-market faith there is an-

crisis of crony capitalism, rather systems, and on beefing up reaction than a broader setback. After years of being told that the eastern version al Monetary Fund. But the implication of capitalism was superior to the of yesterday's report is that the big classic western one, this is certainly a rather pleasing way of looking at the whole thing. Blatant political corruption and the very weak financial systems of the countries concerned have given this view

لكذا من ألاصل

The BIS report is a timely reminder that such black-and-white interpretations are rarely valid. Andrew Crockett, a former Bank of England apparatchik and now general manager of the BIS, paints a truer version of events. Neither interpretation is wholly correct, the BIS argues.

Yes, some parts of Asia's bankhave turned out to be utterly inadequate. Their political and economic institutions trave also proved unequal to the task of coping with the full force of financial markets. On the other hand, the herd-like tendency of banks and investors, their ability to ignore clear warning signals and take excessive risks, amounts to a clear structural weakness within the free market system.

New crisis-prevention measures have focused on getting the Asians to

and response from the Internationprivate sector players who make up the markets have to play their part too. It is next to impossible to force responsibility on financial markets, but they had better start doing it of their own volition if they want to survive. Otherwise the next crisis could

Truth of the Goldman float

indeed be one of capitalism.

much greyer tut probably rather IF, AS SEEMS highly likely, the partners of Goldman Sachs opt for a \$35bn stock market flotation of their investment bank at a meeting to decide the issue next Friday it will have ing system and capital markets nothing to do with wanting to enrich themselves. That, at least is what they say, and since all of them already earn more money than they can possibly know what to do with, there may be something in what they say. So what is the reason? Well, they insist, it is to do with our old friend,

capital efficiency.
One of the problems with a partnership is that there is a constant leakage of capital out of the business as older partners retire and realise the fruits of their labour. With a wast-

other way of looking at it. Asia's prob-lem can be diagnosed as a narrow transparency and reformed banking ness has to run overtime. It is faced with the task not just of servicing the capital, tut of earning sufficient to replace it as well.

This, it is claimed, puts a partnership at a significant competitive disadvantage to incorporated investment banks as well as making it virtually impossible to acquire businesses of any size. Goldman Sachs is at present the best at most of what it does, but there is a real fear that unless it incorporates it will begin to lag.

There may be something in these arguments but they are earily reminiscent of the sort of thing said by the converting building societies as they hurtled down the path to flotation. One of the justifications used by the building societies for con-version is that it would give them greater access to capital.

Since flotation, they have all been repaying their capital by the lorry load; as it transpired, they already had more capital than they could sensibly use. So let's be honest about this, shall we guys? Conversion of a partnership or mutually owned organisation into a publicly listed company is about the present generation of owners cashing in their chips at the expense of future generations. We can all desperately search for a higher purpose, but the reality is a more down to earth













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Internet shopping: Virtual retailing is expected to grow into a £900m business in two years' time

Smith's turns to on-line retailing

WH SMITH'S announcement yester- By NIGEL COPE day that it is paying £9.4m for The Inpernet Bookshop, a three-year-old on-line bookseller, is just the latest example of major retailers starting to take this new medium seriously.

A couple of weeks ago The Gap announced that it was to start selling its preppy causal clothes on an Internet web site for the first time. That followed a decision by Sainsbury's to extend its home delivery service with an Internet ordering option to 30 stores.

But books, along with CDs, are seen as one of the key sectors which could see rapid growth on-line. For customers who know what they want, buying books and music over the Internet can be cheaper and more convenient, as well as providing access to a far greater range than even the largest conventional stores can ever offer.

For example the Internet Bookshop's web site, which trades under the name bookshop.co.uk, offers customers 1.4m titles and it can cut the price of popular titles by up to 40 per

The electronic commerce market is currently relatively small but we expect it to develop significantly over the next few years," said Richard Handover, WH Smith's chief executive yesterday. "The WH Smith brand has good potential to trade competitively in this market particularly as the customer base broad-

Industry figures back up his con-ndence. The UK on-line market was worth only £200m last year but is predicted to grow to £800m by 2000. Books and music are the fourth most popular product type in on-line re-

tailing after computer products, travel and entertainment. On-line book sales are said to be running at only around £20m in the UK at the moment but are doubling every year. "Books are one of the hottest items on the web," said Ross Beadle the Internet Bookshop's marketing direc-

There has certainly been a rush of activity in Internet bookselling in recent months. In April Amazon.com, the largest Internet bookseller, paid \$55m for three Internet businesses including bookpages.co.uk, to give it access to the UK market. Last October Dillons and Hammicks, two UK chains, announced plans for a joint venture in on-line bookselling. This followed a move by Waterstone's to increase the number of books on its web site from 90,000 to over a million to compete with Amazon which claims to stock over 2.5m titles.

It is clear that the traditional book retailers such as Smith's and Waterstones's realise that the "virtual retailer's" such as Amazon, offer a significant competitive threat as they have lower costs because they do not have expensive store portfolios.

So while going on-line themselves might risk cannibalising sales in their shops, the traditional retailers feel having an on-line presence is the best form of protection.

City analysts took this view yesterday saying Smith's move would Tilney. help it defend itself against Amazon, Moer alling Waterstone's a couple of months ago, Smith's only had a uny Internet presence through its WH Smith Retail web site. "They proba-



Book-buyers are increasingly browsing on-line, not in traditional stores such as Books etc, pictured

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that market so they've done the right thing getting back into it," said Iain McDonald at Charterhouse

Richard Perks at Verdict, the retail consultants, was equally sup-portive. Books are products that lend themselves to the internet __you don't actually need to see the prodbly felt a little exposed not being in uct to know what it is you are buying.

produc	et .	
1997	1998	2001
\$863	\$1,616	\$3,766
\$654	\$1,523	\$7,443
\$298	\$591	\$2,678
\$156	\$288	\$1,084
\$149	\$264	\$802
\$92	\$157	\$514
\$232	\$389	\$1,100
\$2,444	\$4,828	\$17,387
	1997 \$863 \$654 \$298 \$156 \$149 \$92 \$232	\$863 \$1,616 \$654 \$1,523 \$298 \$591 \$156 \$288 \$149 \$264 \$92 \$157 \$232 \$389

"The question is whether the Inter- street stores. Traditional operators net can offer something that is sub-

daily basis."
He added that the expansion of the

like Smith's and Waterstone's are al-

While Smith's deal mucht make increase the prospect of an on-line share for a business whose shares price war that could spread to high were trading at 85p last Friday. It is half its sales are repeat business.

stantially better than existing book ready under threat from US comshops in terms of choice and price petitors such as Borders, which and that is developing on an almost acquired the Books etc chain last Internet book retailing market would strategic sense it is paying 265p per

SDX directors to get £20m

THE BANK of England comes under fresh fire over its recent decision to increase the cost of borrowing in a report published today. The new attack, from the TUC, came as the latest figures confirmed that inflation at the factory gate has all but vanished while spending on the high street

could be slowing down. The TUC insists that, contrary to statements from the Bank and the Treasury, recent pay deals have been "responsible and moderate". Average earnings growth also had to be set Against the cost of living, now rising at 4 per cent. The general secretary, John Monks, said wage responsibility must lie with company directors. In its report, the TUC also argues that as manufacturing was moving

BY DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

TUC slump warning

into recession, the service sector of the economy was slowing down.

Yesterday's figures made plain once again the absence of any kind ofinfiationary pressure in manufacturing. "Core" prices charged by manufacturers, excluding the erratic food, drink and petroleum components, were the same last month as

a year earlier. It was the first time in 31 years that underlying inflation at the factory gate has fallen to zero. This is due to earnings and the jobs market, due gate has materials, which has next week. These will reveal how far allowed manufacturers to offset their the surge in measured wage growth higher wage bills. Prices rose 0.3 per was due to one-off bonuses, as the cent in May but remained 8.9 per cent TUC alleges in today's report.

If sales growth on the high street slows down, the good news on inflation could yet feed through to retail prices. In its May survey, the British Retail Consortium reported stable sales growth. The value of sales rose 6.4 per cent in the year to May,

down from 8.8 per cent in April. Like-for-like" sales growth dipped from 5.7 per cent to 3.7 per cent. However, yesterday's figures will

be of little interest to the Bank's Monetary Policy Committee compared to the next official statistics on average

FOUR DIRECTORS of SDX, the telecom-

munications equipment group, will share more than £20m after agreeing to a takeover bid by Lucent Technologies, the US giant that was recently spun off from AT&T.

The cash offer, which is pitched at 325p a share, values SDX at £124m a massive increase in value since the company agreed a management buyout from Northern Telecom, the telecom equipment company, for about 25m in 1991. The bid is also double the price at which SDX floated on the stock exchange in 1996.

Frank Bretherton, the chief executive, has a stake of about 9 per cent in the company, which yesterday's bid values at £10.79m. Marketing director Jeremy Cooke will receive £4.4m efit of SDX's telecom technology, a premium to the offer price.

By PETER THAL LARSEN

while Robert Kennedy, a former finance director, will pocket £5.07m. Maurice Pinto, the non-executive chairman, gets £2.68m. Mr Cooke said that SDX had first

started talking to Lucent in April, before announcing that it was in talks last month. He said that being part of a huge US company would give SDX the muscle to compete overseas.

"We can put our products through their channels worldwide," he said, adding that Lucent's huge research division and brand-name would be an added bonus. No jobs would be lost as part of the takeover, he said.

Lucent, meanwhile, gets the ben-

which is aimed specifically at small and medium-sized businesses. Bill O'Shea, the president of Lucent's business communications systems division, said: "SDX brings additional strength to Lucent in certain key

Photograph: Nicola Kurtz

also paying various option holders an additional £600,000. The company

admits it does not expect to make

"significant financial returns" from

Bookshop.co.uk recorded losses of

£406,000 last year on sales of £2.2m.

It was set up in 1992 by Darryl Mat-

tocks as an information technology

consultancy before becoming book-

shop.co. uk in 1994. The same year

it raised £1m after joining OFEX, the

market for unlisted companies. Of its

the board a couple of months ago to

pursue other interests, still holds

around a third of the shares and so

The existing executive manage

ment team will stay on to develop the

business. It plans to continue its pric-

ing policy which sees the largest dis-counts offered to first time buyers and

targeted at the most popular titles.

Discounts are then gradually re-

daced on subsequent purchasus

though the company says this does

not deter customers as more than

will net £3m from the deal.

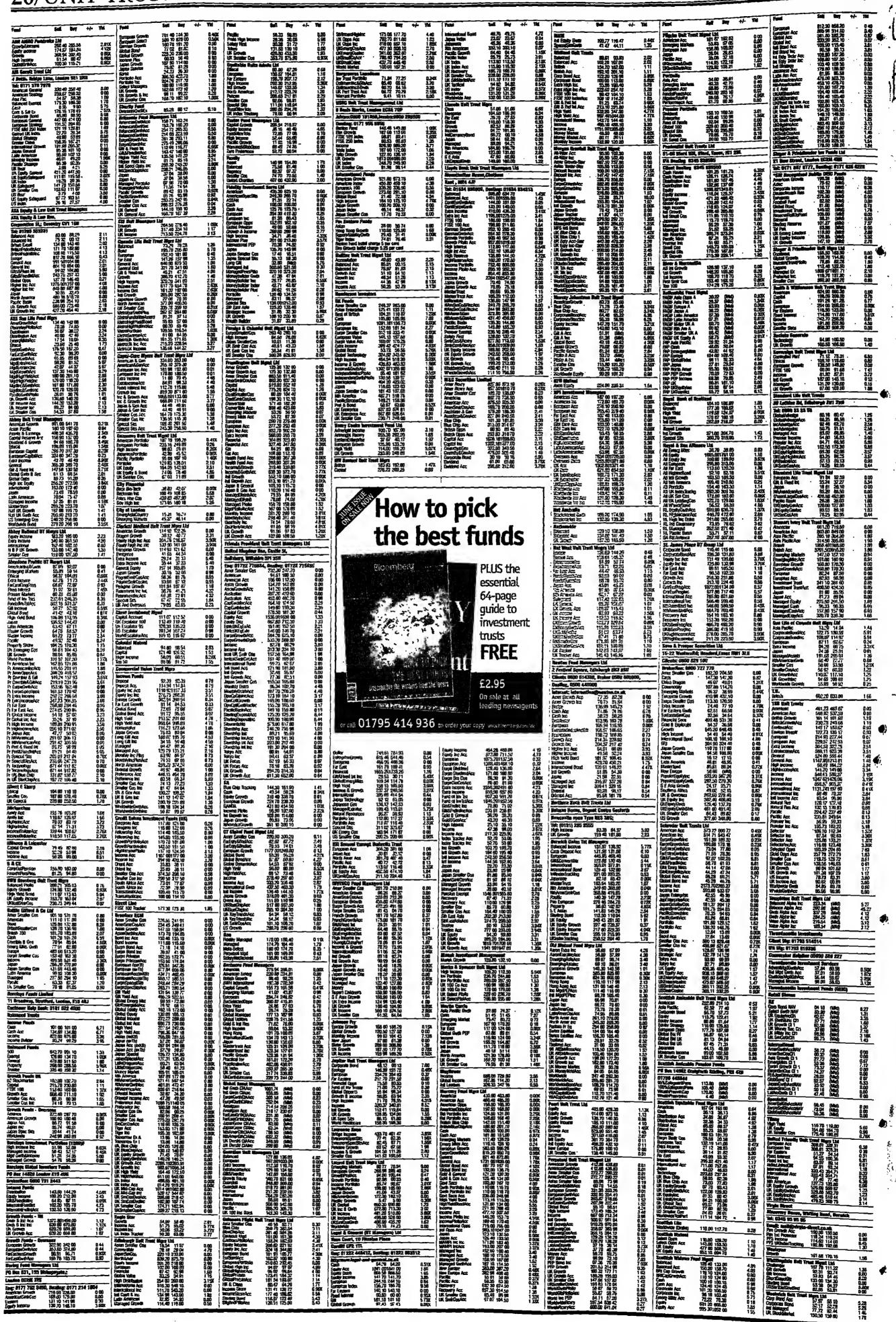
Mr Mattocks, who resigned from

£213,000 assets, £212,000 is cash.

this area in the short term.

products and technologies." The company has taken market share from giants such as British Telecom with its Index technology, which allows companies to operate voicemail systems.

The directors, who between them control more than 20 per cent of the share capital, have agreed to accept the offer. However, analysts said a higher bid from a competing telecom company was still possible. The shares closed down 2p at 326.5p - still



المذا من ألاصل

Forecasters fall foul of passing fashions

ANYONE TRYING to forecast what will happen to the world economy is going to get things wrong.

The great thing about the Bank for International Settlements' annual report - more a commentary on the world of finance than a regular bank report - is that it acknowledges and defines the areas of uncertainty. Unlike the research departments of the commercial financial institutions, which feel they have to give a firm view of future developments, the BIS can stand back and think. This may not be quite so useful for people wanting to be told whether to buy or sell, but for anyone trying to understand what is happening it is a breath of fresh air.

In its analysis of the world economic situation, the BIS focuses on the way things turned out differently last year from previous expectations: the United States and UK did not slow down as expected, and the Japanese recovery failed to sustain itself. In the rest of Europe, small countries tended to grow swiftly while the larger ones underperformed. Yet inflation in the small countries was actually lower than in the big.

To understand the future you have first to understand the present, and one of the most useful things the BIS report does is to explain why things are not what they might have been. In particular it hints at the unsustainable nature of the US and UK expansions, where inflationary pressures have only been held down by rises in the dollar and the pound, and where the current accounts have accordingly deteriorated.

However, the BIS also points out an aspect of the US expansion which I had not fully grasped: the extent to which investment in information technology might have increased the potential for growth. The chart on the left is derived from some statistics the BIS dug out on IT investment, which last year took 20 per cent of total investment in the States. The information industry now accounts for 4 per cent of US output, against only 0.8 per cent in 1992. If you exclude the information industry, real GDP would have only grown at an average of 2.2 per cent over that period. As it was, real output rose by 2.9 per cent a year. In addition, the growth of the information industry helped hold down inflation: strip out information and inflation would have averaged 3 per cent over the period. In fact, inflation was only 2.4 per cent. If one wants a single example of American excep-

tionalism, this is perhaps the best.

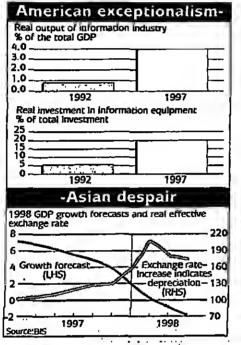
To some extent it must also apply to the UK, where the information industry is also expanding very fast, but it would be nice to see some figures to confirm this. Worryingly, the BIS does note that continental European investment in general has been rather low, and accordingly the spare capacity there is less than might be expected. This is had news for the continent's unemployed, for it suggests that there might be high residual unemployment, even when the economies are at full capacity.



HAMISH MCRAE

One of the most useful things the BIS report does is to explain why things are not what they might have been

An even bigger surprise than the divergent performance of the main developed countries last year was of course the abysmal performance of what had been the fastest-growing region. East Asia. It would not have been a complete surprise to anyone who read the previous year's BIS report, which did warn of the excessive investment that was taking place, and the price bubbles that were a-brewing in the property markets. The region was clearly vulnerable to any sharp fall-off in demand, but what everyone had failed to spot was the way in which the decline in demand would interact with a frag-



ile financial system and companies heavily burdened with debt.

What no-one really saw was the way in which the short-term response to the financial crisis, sharp devaluations, would hit growth prospects and thereby put even more pressure on the region's banks and companies. The right-hand graph shows how estimates for the 1998 growth of the crisis-hit four (Indonesia, South Korea, Malaysia and Thailand) were cut during the second half of 1997, as their currencies simulta-

neously collapsed.

Normally you might expect a devaluation to boost growth by encouraging exports and leading to import substitution. In this case, because one country's exports were another country in the region's imports, the devaluations had the effect of depressing the whole region.

What happens next? The BIS believes that asset prices have not been inflated by the global fund management industry to any substantial extent, but there is an implicit warning here that the present high asset prices are not sustainable. The BIS is not predicting a stockmarket crash later this year, but if there is one, it would be able to say that such an outcome was consistent with what it wrote.

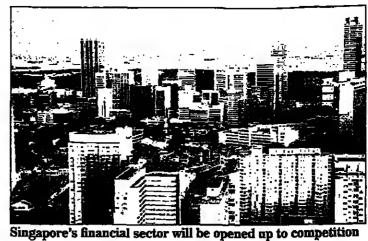
The most interesting part of the report is, as usual, the final few pages of commentary at the end. It starts by pointing out the dangers of fashion. It is fashionable at the moment to take a generally positive view of the future, despite the trauma of Asia. It suggests that there is a danger of over-optimism at the moment. Just as the Asian economies were admired for their high savings and high investment, no-one focused on the fact that a lot of this investment was going into unprofitable projects. With that warning, it looks at the potential weak spots in the world economy now.

One is the imbalances among developed countries and, in particular, the rising current account deficit of the US. It sketches a scenario (not, it notes, a forecast) where US growth slows, confidence ebbs and foreign funds are suddenly withdrawn from the dollar.

Two, banking systems throughout East Asia and Japan need to be rebuilt. The weakest banks will have to be closed and the rest recapitalised.

Third, there are imbalances within the rest of the developed world. The new European Central Bank will find it difficult to set a single interest rate for the entire region, given the different cyclical position of the large and small economies; and the US and UK will have to tackle tightening labour markets, worsening trade balances and rising inflation.

Finally, the BIS asks: can we learn to cope with crises better? It concludes that crises will undoubtedly continue - we cannot bope to prevent them - so we will just have to learn to manage them as well as possible, hut "it is simply not prudent to assume that everything will turn out for the best".



Singapore banks face shake-up

SINGAPORE'S DEPUTY prime minister has announced sweeping reforms to his country's banking system, in moves intended to increase transparency and liquidity and to foster competition in the

Lee Hsien Loong, who also heads the Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS), told an Association of Banks in Singapore (ABS) dinner that bank disclosure requirements were to be raised to international standards. He said Singapore's Committee

He said Singapore's Committee of Banking Disclosure would soon publish recommendations on changes to banks' disclosure and provisioning practices.

Mr Lee said: "The Committee has recommended that local banks stop the current practice of maintaining

hidden reserves. It recommends they disclose the market value of their investments, which have largely been valued at book cost and hence contributed to their hidden reserves."

The deputy prime minister said the banking, securities and insurance markets would progressively be opened up to foreign competition over the next five years. "Competition is already lapping at our doorstep. It is better to embrace liberalisation at our own pace than face the prospect of one day being swept away by the

floodwaters of competition."

He added that more competition would enhance Singapore's development as an international financial centre, and in turn should create more business for everyone.

Bid for Lonhro Africa looks increasingly likely

By TERRY MACALISTER

GEORGE SOROS-BACKED Blakeney Management yesterday confirmed its interest in Lonhro and Lonhro Africa, beightening speculation that a hid for the Lonhro Africa could soon emerge.

The sub-Saharan trading operation which demerged a month ago from Lonhro is a £127m company which on Thursday will report a steep fall in first-half profitability.

Blakeney, founded eight years ago, is said to be an active manager of Soros funds and has become interested in the potential of Africa.

Blakeney last year took a 26 per cent stake in African Lakes, another African trading company in which Soros's Quantum Emerging Growth fund is said to have a bolding.

In a statement to the stock exchange, Blakeney said: "We have looked at the publicly available documents relating to Lonhro and Lonhro Africa. We continue to assess Lonhro and Lonhro Africa's investment merits."

Lonhro Africa has an extensive portfolio, covering hotels, cotton, and motor distribution outlets in 14 countries. It owns 11 hotels and safari lodges in Kenya, Ghana and Mauritius.

Lonhro Africa was demerged

from the parent group in a move to focus Lonhro on its mining activities.

The group had sales of £554m in the year to September and produced profits of £42.3m. Thursday's results could show that profits have fallen by half in the latest six-month period

UK fund managers switch to bonds

By Lea Paterson

FEARS OF global economic slowdown have prompted beavy buying of bonds by UK fund managers, according to a survey published yesterday.

The latest Merrill Lynch/Gallup study also reveals that fund managers were as surprised as anyone in the City when the Bank of England raised interest rates last week. Seventy per cent of UK fund managers surveyed before last week's decision said they believed the next move in rates would be down.

Trevor Greetham, a global strategist at Merrill Lynch, said the bank's decision "caught everyone on the hop". Mr Greetham said he disagreed with the view that the rate rise could jeopardise the economy's chance of achieving a "soft landing" – that is, achieving a sustainable growth rate without going through painful recession.

Mr Greetham said: "The Bank of England raised rates as a preemptive measure against inflation. You are more likely to see a soft landing now. Hard landings only tend to occur when you already have inflation in the system."

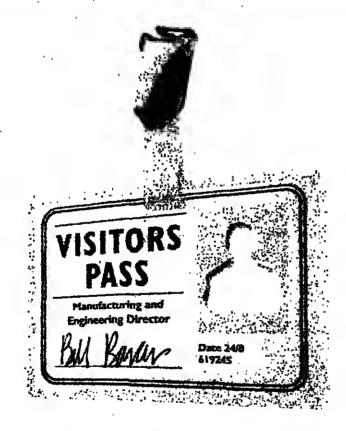
The survey showed that UK fund managers had become "aggressive huyers" of overseas honds, with buyers outnumbering sellers by 28 per cent, the second-highest rate since the survey began in 1990, Gilts were also popular with the money managers, with buyers outnumbering sellers by 21 per cent.

Managers typically favour bonds

Managers typically favour bonds over stocks when there are concerns about world economic slowdown, Mr Greetham said. "Recent turmoil in the emerging markets could be a sign of a slowing global economy. Bonds should outperform stocks for the next few months."

Although UK fund managers have little interest in domestic equities, they are still bullish about Continental equities, with buyers outnumbering sellers by 16 per cent. Mr Greetham said: "An upturn in European domestic demand and post-EMU restructuring should boost European corporate earnings."

Bonds are also proving popular with American fund managers, according to Merrill Lynch/Gallup. There are growing concerns in the US about the impact of the Asian crisis on corporate earnings.



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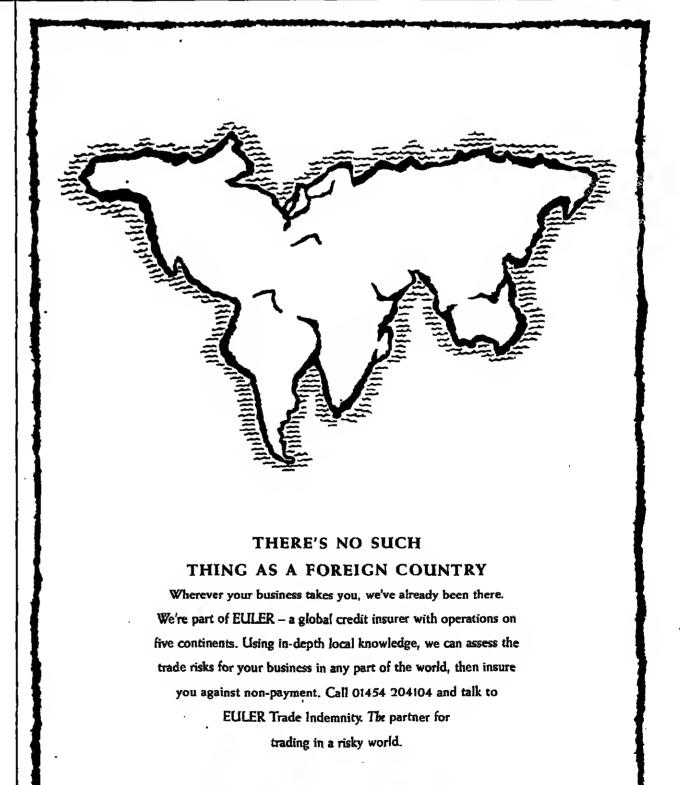
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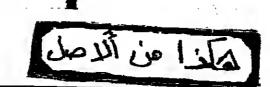




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BT's 'buried treasure' raises hopes

THE STOCK MARKET dialled into a story that BT is on the verge of clinching a major deal to develop its European mterests. Details, it is thought, could emerge at an investment presentation scheduled for Friday

BT's shares rose 6p to 659p, an unspectacular display considering blue chips enjoyed their best performance for more than six weeks.

Footsie, largely on the back of New York, rose 90.5 points to rest above 6,000 for the first time since mid-April. Supporting indices were in fine form, with the mid cap hitting a new peak.

BT's presentation will concentrate on its European ambitions. Many expect it to flesh out the talk with details of a strategic alliance, with either a Continental or even American group.

The market has been hoping for a BT initiative since its American adventure came to grief when it was outbid for MCI. Henderson Crosthwaite believes BT has "buried treasure" tucked away and the shares could hit 730p.

The composition of Footsie was also the subject of debate as the marMARKET REPORT

ket deliberated the likely changes which will be decided tomorrow by the FTSE steering committee.

It could be quite a shake-up with three newcomers barging into the exclusive 100 strong club. Stagecoach, the bus and train group up 33.5p to 1,462.5p, looks a candidate; so does WPP, the advertising group which once teetered on the hrink of disaster. It held at 423p.

Daily Mail & General Trust is

another possibility. Its "A" shares rose 30p to 3,105p although the voting shares slipped 15p to 3,095p. Next, up 13p to 575p, and Wolseley, off 7.5p at 405.5p, are in danger. Health group Nycomed Amersham, the other threatened with relegation, put on a spirited display in a late bid to survive.

The ordinary shares rose 69p to 2.0590 and the non-voters led the Footsie leader board with a 130p jump to 2,030p. The group, indulging in a capital reconstruction which will give votes to all shares, was helped by bullish comments from SG Securities. Other investment houses, such as Merrill Lynch and Panmure Gordon, have made positive noises lately.

There was at one time a danger that Nycomed's big Norwegian shareholding would jeopardise its Footsie role but that danger has now been averted.

Diageo, the spirits giant, was in form, reflecting an investment presentation at its Miami Burger King headquarters. The Grand Metropolitan/Guinness group rose 30.5p to 756p. Merrill Lynch suggests Diageo, rumoured to be interested in huying the Bols Dutch liqueur group, should hit 810p a share.

Financials were back on form, responding to the latest US mega

SHARE SPOTLIGHT share price, pence DIAGEO

banking merger, the \$34hn affair be-tween Wells Fargo and Norwest Corporation, Royal Bank of Scotland jumped 62p to 1,127p as some pondered, once again, a deal with Halifax, up 31p to 888p.

J J A SOND J FMAM J

The boardroom changes at Barclays were good enough for a 71p gam to 1,747p. The theory is the bank-ing group is preparing for corporate action and Norwich Union, up the receiving end of an unwanted bid.

HSBC managed an 8p gain to 1,606p. The shares failed to throw off the impact of profit downgradings as Schroders and PG took the axe to their estimates.

Regional breweries drew strength from the sudden takeover ferment, with Morland 12.5p higher at 470p and Joseph Holt improving 35p to 2,150p.

Young & Co's Brewery, the family-run Wandsworth group, responded to moves by financial group Guinness Peat to shake up its old fashioned capital structure. The "A" shares rose 30p to 675p and the non-voters 15p to 567.5p.

Vaux, the Sunderland brewer and hotelier which has received a bid approach, firmed 9.5p to 354.5p. Ushers of Trowbridge, another to admit take over interest, shaded to

Pilkington, the glass maker, fell 2p to 130.5p after Dresdner Kleinwort Benson produced sell advice.

Rank, the leisure group, was little changed at 361p ahead of an investment dinner at London's Savoy Hotel, hosted by Henderson

11.75p to 468.5p, could find itself on Crosthwaite. Cadbury Schweppes, still seeing analysts, hardened 11.5p

> Alba, the television and video group, improved 21p to 216p. HSBC. following a 29 per cent profits advance, said buy, forecasting profits

of £14.2m this year. BTG, the old British Technology Group, rose a further 22p to 777.5p. Investment presentations are due to start next week for the flotation of its Torotrak gearbox group. Calluna fell 4.25p to 27.25p. Re-

ports of problems over its Hardwall system did the damage. The shares have jumped on hopes of major contracts for the computer security

Carlisle rose 2p to 18p in brisk trading as investors anticipated the little property group was the vehicle for the return of Michael Ashcroft, a major 1980s player.

Trust Motor advanced 13.5p to 207p as Reg Vardy was linked to the group where a management huyout has failed.

Minmet, on hopes of a Devon gold strike after last week's "enlied 1.75p to 10.75p.

Security & General Media, a printer, slumped 22p to 27.5p. A trading report saying losses were higher than expected did the damage. The struggling loss maker was revamped last year after Philip Davies, who runs the Warm Welcome hotels and pubs group, and John Gulliver, an American lawyer, moved in.

Landround, a promotions group, jumped 31p to 225p, a peak. Last week it reported interim profits np 250 per cent to £405,000. Audrey Carroll at stockbroker WH Ireland expects £825,000 for the year and £1.1m next. The group is thought to be on the verge of clinching a highly amhitious

WH Smith's surprise £9.4m hid for internet bookseller Bookshop.Co. sent the Ofex shares soaring 165p to 250p. Another Ofex company, IMS Communications, an internet music retailer related to Bookshop, gained 17p to 82.5p.

Unigate milking earnings growth

AFTER PULLING out of its £1.6bn bid for Hillsdown Holdings, Unigate is suddenly under pressure. With £231m in the bank, the dairy and fresh foods group has the firepow er to make a major purchase. Bu shareholders would like to see a dea sooner rather than later, or else have that cash returned to them.

Unigate is more inclined to hit the acquisition trail but its cautious reputation seems to rule out an earl deal. The other problem is that there are few obvious targets. Uni gate is thought to have looked at Geest a while ago but the fresh food group's shares have since doubled Hazlewood Foods had its attractions too but it is also now looking ex pensive. Unigate remains interest ed in parts of Hillsdown, of course but given that it backed out of the deal because of Hillsdown's current trading statement, investors should not hold their breath.

The uncertainty has cast a cloud over Unigate's shares, which peaked at 731p earlier his year. Nevertheess, the company is enjoying strong earnings growth. Profits before exceptionals grew by nearly 12 per cent to £139m in the year to March, with a higher contribution from every business. Fresh foods did well in spite of a fall in UK pig prices at the group's Malton business as consumers shifted back to beef from pork. Chilled products also performed well, helped by Teletubby yoghurts which have sold 14m pots since their February launch.

A dairy deal is always a possibility, though Unigate feels an Express Dairies style de merger will not add to shareholder value. So perhaps a special dividend is the most likely. On current year forecasts of £158m, the shares - up 6p to 664.5p yesterday - trade on a forward rating of 13. Worth holding.

British Land looking cheap

WHILE THE rest of the stock market enjoys uninterrupted optimism, the poor old property sector can only stand on the sidelines and watch. British Land is one of the best-managed property groups. But even yesterday's announcement of record pre-tax profits at £127m, up 39 per cent, could not shift the share price from an 18-month low. Yesterday, the

INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY PETER THAL LARSEN

UNIG	ATE: AT A GLANCE
	e; £1,60n, share price; 664.5p (+6p)
Tracking record	1994 1995 1996 1997 1998
Turnover (£bn)	1.9 1.9 2.1 2.4 2.3
Pre-Cak profits (Em)	107.4 563 299.0 116.2 147.9
Earning's per share (p)	31.4 19.8 113.2 37.2 47.2
Operating profit by division	06 Share price
£m	pence
	person.
	800
1997	
1997	1998 700
60 1997	1998 700 — A 600
80 60 1997	1998 700
60 1997	1998 700 — A 600
80 60 1997	1998 700 600 500

shares slipped 4.5p to 665.5p.

 Property values rose by a promising 12.8 per cent in the 12 months to 31 March, compared to 5.9 per cen last time. Net assets per share grew from 478p to 592p, also an all-time high. Total properties, including British Land's joint ventures are now worth £5.8bn with annualised gross rents of £353m.

The key to British Land's operational success has been a series of well-timed joint ventures. The company started with Scottish & Newcastle and moved heavily into supermarkets with Tesco. British Land's chairman, John Rithlat, clearly has other joint ventures in mind. But in line with his tight-lipped policy, no-one will be given an inkling until a firm deal is done.

One of the most interesting could be a tie-up with Railtrack. The companies are looking at developing the last section of Broadgate together. Analysts have pencilled in a net asset value of 592p for this year which makes the company look cheap at its present price. Buy.

Mixed fortunes in electronics

COMPARED TO Premier Farnell, Electrocomponents has had a quiet year. While the rival electronic parts distributor issued several profit warnings and waved good-bye to its chief executive, Electrocomponents

has quietly gone about its business The two companies' contrasting fortunes has been reflected in their nell shares have lost a fifth of their value in the past year while Electrocomponents rose by 42 per cent

Nevertheless, the business is not without its problems. In the UK. where Electrocomponents still makes three quarters of its sales. comparable turnover last year was up 5 per cent. Even though margins widened, profit growth only just made it into double figures. This from a company that in the past reg ularly posted earnings growth of 20 per cent or more.

Electrocomponents' response has been to beef up its operations in continental Europe and, more recently, Japan. On the continent, investment is paying off even though the strong pound dented the value of profits in sterling terms. But expanding in Japan will wipe £30m off Electrocomponents' profits over the next five years.

This investment, and the cash Electrocomponents is pouring into its web site to allow customers to order electronically, make long-term sense but at the expense of mediumterm growth. Merrill Lynch, the stockbroker, forecasts profits of £128m in 1999 and reckons it will be three years before the company returns to double-digit earnings growth. On a forward PE ratio of 28 the shares, up 6.5p to 569.5p yes-terday, are high enough.

IN BRIEF

Bonfield paid £1m

SIR PETER BONFIELD, the chief executive of British Telecom, last year joined the ranks of UK executives paid more than £1m. BT's annual report shows that he received total pay of £1,101,000, including £488,000 in annual and deferred honuses - a 46 per cent increase on 1996. Sir Peter is also sitting on shares potentially worth £1.56m under BT's long-term performance plan. The pay of the chairman, Sir Iain Vallance, rose from £702,000 to £862,000.

Salvesen profits cut

CHRISTIAN SALVESEN, the international haulier based in Scotland which specialises in frozen food, reported pre-tax profits for the year to May of £26.4m, down from £29.9m last time. The company cut its final dividend to 3.40p from 5.35p after profits from food services fell due to a poor vegetable harvest.

Granada store move

GRANADA FOOD Services, a subsidiary of the Granada catering group, has been selected as the joint venture partner by Littlewoods to manage and operate the retail chain's 90 inaway facilities. The joint venture is worth £375m over the sevenyear contract period.

Carton-maker sale WADDINGTON YESTERDAY put

its struggling carton-making business up for sale after a disappointing set of results. The company hopes to raise around executive, Martin Buckley, said. News of the sale sent its shares 180 higher to 293p, valuing the company at just over £300m.

Godfrey scores at trusts association

THE LEADERSHIP crisis at the Association of Investment Trust Companies (AFTC) has been resolved with the appointment of Daniel Godfrey, a 36-year-old Arse-nal fanatic from Fleming Investment Trust Management, as the AITC's director general.

This follows the shock departure of Michael Hart after just two months in the director general's hot seat. Mr Hart, a former boss of Foreign & Colonial investment trusts, resigned after F&C clashed with shareholders over corporate governance at one of its trusts, the Brazilian Smaller Companies Investment Trust.

Mr Godfrey has his work cut out at the AFTC, which one City critic described yesterday as "in need of a shake-up". The AITC has an oldfashioned board which is seen as an obstacle to modernisation. Far more investors' money has been flowing into unit trusts than investment trusts recently, not surprising perhaps given the ever-widening disshare price of many leading investment trusts.

The good news is that Mr Godfrey is keen to bring the AFTC up to date: "I want to create an environment where investment trusts can create exceptional returns, and where shareholders can enjoy those returns," says the Flemings man.

Mr Godfrey's arrival means that David Harris, the trusty deputy at the AFTC who held the fort while the head-hunters did their work, didn't get the top job. Meanwhile at Flemings, young

PEOPLE AND

BUSINESS By JOHN WILLCOCK

Godfrey has been replaced by Simon Crinage, product development di-rector for investment trusts. Patrick Gifford, chairman of Fleming Investment Trust Management, commented: "Whilst we are very sorry to see Daniel go, it had gradually become apparent that he was going to run out of headroom in his current surance (PHD) policy. vith us." Let's hope there are plenty of high ceilings at the APTC's City offices in Chiswell Street.

UNIGATE, THE dairy group, has set up an exercise bike in the lobby of its west London head office. Sir Ross Buckland, Unigate's smooth Australian chief executive, is taking part in a simulated Lands End to John O'Groats sponsored cycle ride, in which employees pedal away for the equivalent of the length of the

Given that the exercise bike provided for this task is in such a pub-

his Lycra shorts and do his bit "at some ungodly hour", according to a colleague, so that underlings don't see him sweating profusely.
At least he's digging deep to help

lic area. Sir Ross has chosen to don

the cause. The company hopes to raise £5,000 for the Save the Children Fimd, and the benevolent Sir Ross has pledged to double whatever is raised, from his own fat wallet.

A DENTIST who "developed a phobia of dentistry" and retired from his work was refused a payout by his insurance company, prompting him to complain to the Personal Investment Authority's ombudsman.

The insurance company refused his claim saying that "it did not consider a phobia to be a recognised medical complaint". Perusing the annual report from

the Personal Investment Authority (PIA), as one does, I noticed the reference to the dentist's disputed claim on a Permanent Health In-The dentist had taken the

of two psychiatrists and his GP, and had taken early retirement. He was receiving a substantial NHS pension.

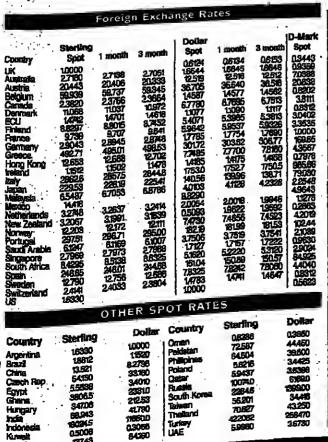
The complainant underwent two independent psychiatric assessments, "both of which confirmed that be was totally unable to follow his occupation as a dentist, and that he was a danger to himself and his patients".

Happily for the dentist, the ombudsman over-ruled the company, opening up a whole range of poss bilities for work-related phobia claims. Aargh, there's a desk...

COMPANY RESULTS

	Turnover £	Pro-Cax £	EP\$	Dividend	
Acai (F)	159.50m (149.05c	n) 10.29m (9.77m)	32.8p (30.7p)	10.9p (9.58p)	
Samur Houses (F)		7.300m (2.207m)		3.0p (1.8p)	
British Land (F)	284.1m (277.0m)	127.2m (91.2m)	21,2p (15.7p)	9.8p (9.0p	
Cleveland Treet (F)	9.09m (7.56m)	2.33m (1.97m)	B.4p (8.3p)	6.2p (6.0p)	
CPL Americs (F)	34.90m (34.25m)	1.493m (-0.522m)	11.8p (-6.2p)	4.5p (4.8p)	
Criticities Erosp (F)	58.01m (45.94m)	9.52m (8.52m)	41.9p (35.2p)	14.25p (12.5p)	
Draw Scientific (F)	2.52m (2.27m)	-0.474m (-0.172m)	-1,7p (-0.7p)	Di
Sectrocamponesta (F)	682.4m (611.3m)	118.2m (112.4m)	18.9p (17.7p)	9.0p (7.7p)	
SE tatarmational (F)	77.68m (84.80m)	2.943m (5.540m)	2.38p (9.28p)	4.5p (4.5p)	
Beeck & Housego (I)	3.66m (6.72m)	0.826m (1.58m)	3.5p (7.4p)	0.5p (-)	
Gracies Computing (I)	8.52m (4.50m)	1.02m (0.487m)	1.98p (0.88p)	- {-}	
Hadinish (F)	30.65m (31.31m)	2.22m (2.13m)	22.2p (18.9p)	7.5p (7.0p)	
Independent Energy (N)	34 92m (5 49m)	-0.428m (-0.959m	-2.50 (-7.3e)	nii (-)	

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EP\$	Dividend
Pourderjoct Pharmer.(F)	3.1m (0.5m)	-4.71m (-3.61m)	-8.10p (-8.96p)	· (-)
Resold (F)	183.6m (180.3m)	22.5m (21.5m)	25.7p (22.7p)	9.0p (8.0p)
Christian Salvesan (F)	836.0m (747.8m)	83.8m (85,9m)	15.1p (19.4p)	3.40p (5.35p)
SOX Business System (1)	28.40m (20.65m)	2.93m (1.86m)	5.4p (3.5p)	1.0p (0.8p)
SZik Industries (F)	19.57m (16.25m)	2.22m (2.63m)	13.9p (15.6p)	7.0p (7.0p)
586 Greep (F)	132.76m (143.25s	m)9.89m (30.77m)	13.3p (33.5p)	5 5p (5.0p)
Stirling Group (F)	115.10m (101.82r	n)6.61m (5.12m)	5.39p (3.86p)	2.50p (2.30p)
Unince (F)	50.84m (28.61m)	4.42m (2.52m)	19.19 (15.50)	7.0p (5.5p)
Unigate (F)	2.31bn (2.35bn)	147.9m (116.2m)	47.2p (37.2p)	22.0p (20.2p)
Viaddington (F)	330.53m (310.4m)39.56m (32.08m)	27.84p (21.57p)11.5p (10.40p)
Walker Crips (F)	7,48m (6.43m)	1,305m (0.809m)	10.5p (7.1p)	4.5p (3.25p)
Warner Estate fildgs (I)	· (-)	4.843m (4.818m)	7.16p (7.10p)	4.30p (4.15p)
Waterfall Holdings (I)	8.02m (5.73m)	1.157m (0.682m)	2.31p (1.91p)	2.31p (1.91p)



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SPORT

Grand design turns circuits into sideshows

lighted the vexed problem of overtaking than the games of dodgem

Canadian Grand Prix under way. On the first effort five cars were involved in an accident as Alexander Wurz's Benetton rolled over Jean Alesi's Sauber; in the second, Jarno Trulli's Prost had a coming together with Alesi's car.

"The problem is that too many young drivers get greedy," Alesi said. "When you make a good start there comes a point when you have to be satisfied with the progress you have made, otherwise you cannot get round the corner. There is no point to try and pass everyone, it just

doeso't work."

Such is the difficulty in overtaking in F1 these days, however, that the start and the pitstops represent the best opportunities. The rest is often follow-my-leader. Ricardo Rosset has scarcely set the road alight this season, yet a driver of Johnny Herbert's calibre lacked the straightline speed to pass his Tyrrell and struggled for several laps before finally squeezing ahead.

Jacques Villeneuve, whose own effort to pass Giancarlo Fisichella ended with an embarrassing trip across the gravel bed and the incident that lost him his Williams' rear wing, said: "Part of the problem is the attitude in grand prix racing. When I arrived here the only thing that people could tell me was that overtaking was impossible, and that you shouldn't even bother to try. If you go into a race in that spirit, all you think of is when to make the next a significant part of the FedEx

NOTHING more effectively high- David Tremayne considers why Sunday's events on the track in Montreal typified cars that enlivened the two attempts necessary to get Sunday's exactly what is wrong with Formula One

overtaking someone. Often you can even see another driver thinking about passing someone, then in the middle of it he thinks: 'Oh, f shouldn't be doing this'. It's as if it's in his mind not to do it, so he never tries it. If you end up banging wheels and crashing, the criticism that follows will outweigh the positive reaction that should come from your having tried to pass someone. It's almost as if it's better not to try.

Formula One is criticised for its lack of overtaking, particularly in comparison with the American ChampCar series in which pitstops play just as significant a role, yet the on-track action is often spectacular.

The FIA, the sport's governing body is investigating how to improve the possibilities for overtaking in F1, and one suggestion has been to abandon the flat-bottomed cars used since 1983, and to revert to those with shaped ground-effect undersides similar to ChampCars.

A higher minimum weight and reversion to steel, rather than carbon, brakes have also been mooted. The reigning ChampCar champion, Alex Zanardi, a former F1 driver, said: "There is more that you can do with the car, and it does not suffer so much from the aerodynamic turbulence that prevents other drivers following you closely enough to try overtaking."

On the oval tracks that comprise

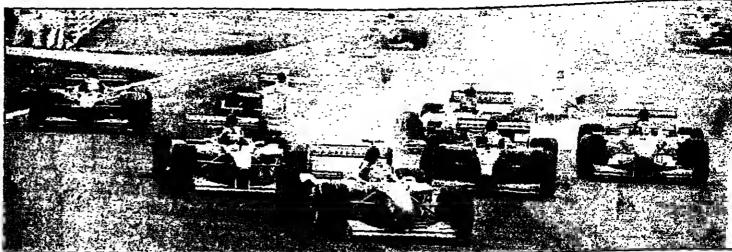
pit stop, to give yourself a chance of ChampCar series, the cars regularly run inches apart at more than 200mph, whereas F1 cars lose a sizeable amount of downforce the moment they get too close to one another Patrick Head, the technical director of Williams, reports that their telemetry indicates an appreciable reduction in downforce when one

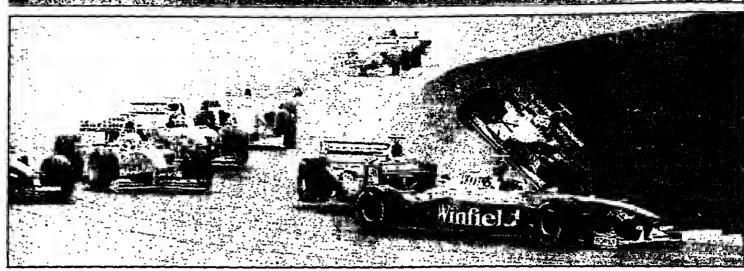
car gets within 50 metres of another. "There are two issues here," Ron Dennis, the McLaren chief, suggests. "Close racing and overtaking. If you want close racing you must have stable regulations which remain unchanged for long periods."

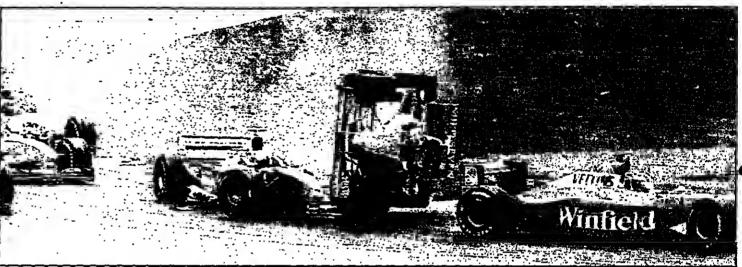
Villeneuve said: "As long as we remain so dependent on downforce, the more difficult it is going to be to follow people around corners. The cars are now so aerodynamically efficient, even on the straight, that you cannot slipstream any more."

The underlying problem is that the designers are too clever. Historically, any attempt to limit downforce, since the late Colin Chapman taught his rivals how to harness it effectively in the Seventies, has always been circumvented by the ingenmity of the designers.

The answer is thus far more complex than it might first seem. Until a satisfactory compromise is reached, races will tend to be processional, or else irresistible forces will continue to meet immovable forces to the detriment of the world's most highly developed race cars.







The charge into the first corner of the Gilles Villenenve circuit saw Alexander Wurz (far right, top picture) forced wide as the rest of the pack close up after swerving to avoid Mika Hakkinen's McLaren. Wurz then made an excursion across the grass (middle), re-entering the track vertically between Jean Alesi and Heinz-Harald Frentzen (bottom)

SUN SEA SAND AND SEWAGE



CO-OP TRAVELCARE TELLS IT LIKE IT IS



A family of businesses

John Roberts meets a double act determined to keep the Wimbledon champion and World No 1 ahead of the game Hingis and mother: perfect partners

MARTINA HINGES, the 17-year-old Wimbledon champion, cannot remember a time when she was not playing tennis. "My mother told me I was two years old, but when she was pregnant at six months she won a tournament with me. So I was unborn and already had that feeling of

"And you were already a doubles champion," your correspondent ven-tured. Hingis laughed. Her mother and coach, Melanie Molitor, corrected the statement. "It was not a doubles tournament, it was a singles tournament.

The most amazing mother and daughter tennis team of the century is preparing to launch another campaign at the All England Club following a year of triumph that was so rudely interrupted last Thursday on the red clay of the French Open

An inspired Monica Seles overwhelmed Hingis in the semi-finals, 6-3, 6-2, halting her quest to complete a collection of the four Grand Slam singles titles and setting a com-pelling scene for the Wimbledon lawns a fortnight hence. Seles is likely to be joined there by Steffi Graf, the champion on seven occasions, who appears to bave recovered from a series of injuries.

"Wimbledon every year is always something very special, because it's the most important tournament in the world," Melanie said. "It's always a test. If it works correctly in practice, everything will be fine."

Melanie Molitor's commonsense approach has confounded the perception that casts tennis parents as coaches from hell who would lock up their teenage daughters rather than expose them to the dangers of the professional game. Hingis appears remarkably well-balanced considering her astonishing rise to fame and wealth from the background of a broken home.

Born in Kosice, Slovakia, and raised in Roznov, in the Czech Republic, before moving to Switzerland with her mother and stepfather at the age of seven, Hingis speaks warmly of her mother's guidance. "She's not only my mother and my coach but she's also my friend, like an older sister. I can talk to her about everything."

Melanie, 41, and Martina ski together and rollerblade together. In common with many working relaperienced stress and strain. "The most difficult part is not on the tennis court," Melanie said, "but life off the tennis court," Her daughter has even talked about having a change from playing tennis. "Martina has that feeling many times."

"Two or three years ago we had a problem," Hingis said. "I didn't say that I wasn't going to play, I just didn't play that well. Actually, when I think back, there's nothing I've wanted to

"I think every teenager goes through a stage of thinking, Why should I do this or that?' Nobody re- I am sometimes the laid back type, ally wants to go to school, but you have to. So I suppose it's the same with me. I didn't go to school any-more, so I felt, Well, why should I play tennis?' I think everybody has I get a little bit tired at the end. And a problem, whatever they do, but she's always the person who pushwhen you're well known it just es me into doing some work on my-



Hingis: 'She's not only my mother and my coach but she's also my friend, like an older sister. I can talk to her about everything'

Credit: Blick Sport

comes up a little bit quicker. In a nor-self. That's very good for me, because mal family it happens also, but I would say nobody knows about it. With me, the whole world knew.

"As soon as I started working on tionships, however, theirs has ex- myself and practised a little bit more I had success right there, so I would be pretty stupid if I didn't continue to do the same thing.".

Melanie continues to coat. "When

I miss a ball, every bad shot, she is always is there. She knows when I do something wrong. Well, by now, I treat her like a player on the I know it also. She's the one who keeps telling me, and that's good, that's the coach's job. You always have disagreements, also in the family, but most of the the time, well. o since I was born hut play tennis. I'm No 1 in the world, so there is nothing we have to change.

> "Mum always wants to be perfect. not always on time. Whenever I have a little problem, and especially when I get to the semis or finals, she kind of takes it a little hit easier, because

without her I couldn't be where I am." For Melanie, as well as for her

daughter, flexibility is imperative. "Martina is the No 1 player in the world today. This proves that she has her ideas, too. So even I, as the mother and the coach, have to adapt a little bit. In the beginning I was treating Martina like a child, and now as an adult, that's the difference. I have accepted her as a player today. court, but sometimes it is quite difthe coach and the mother."

Competition from her peers helps to galvanise Hingis. Her chief rivals among the rising generation, the Williams sisters, Venus and Serena, the Russian Anna Kournikova, and to outshine each other in every way. As Hingis emphasised, "If you have a look at Anna, or Venus, or Mirjana, they are all different and they are all very feminine. They all want to look pretty on the court as well as being good players."

The cover story of a recent issue of GQ magazine provided Hingis with a surprisingly raunchy image. "The Champ is a Vamp!' I liked the title, and I liked the pictures, too. I was there all day. When they put on the make up they spent 45 minutes

just on one eye. And the champ has developed a relationship with Senor Julian Alonso. "Ah, Senor!" Hingis gave a little laugh. From early in the year, photographers have been snapping her out together with the 20-year-old tended to decline. Does the attention bother her? "Well, it's not really that. He's a good friend, and I think more or less it's just between me and him. We're in the beginning, so I don't re-ally know how it's going to work it. the Croat Mirjana Lucic, endeavour Everybody has to go through that

stage one day." Melanie divorced her second husband, Andreas Zogg, a Swiss computer salesman, almost two years ago [Martina's father, Karol Hingis, 46, still lives in Slovakia]. Mother and daughter have Swiss homes in Trubbach and Regensdorf, a 10-minute drive from Zurich airport, and one in the Czech Republic, where Martina has glowing memories of her

"I just loved it. I didn't want to bave anything else other than what I had there. We had a small apartment, which I liked, and we were always out at the courts playing tennis. We had fun.

lost 12-0. I don't remember that any more, though I know that something happened. I could count. I knew always where I had to stand and where I bad to be, where I had to serve, what to do. That girl was so mean, she didn't want to give me one game. Every game was close. I was 30-all and made a mistake probably. The age group was up to nine. She

"I started playing those tournawas six or seven I started beating I was born." She smiled. "She was

everybody up to nine. I just had a great life out there. There were always like 40 kids on the grounds. It was like a whole big family playing together, kids and men and women, like one big community. It was one of the three big tennis camps in the country, the one for juniors. They were all of the best kids in the

Did she recall the moment she "When I was three years old I first held a racket? "No, because I could play like 300 times over the net was so small. I suppose it was like already. And then at four there was a toy. I just grew up on the courts. I was always there. Other kids play in front of the house, I would go to the courts with my mum all the time, and when she practised I was always there. When I came back home after five or six hours standing on the tennis court, I would grab the racket and I would play on the door or on the wall in the apartment. I was

Czech Republic."

Was mother a good player? "Well, she was in the top 20 in the Czech Republic, so she was pretty good. maybe that's why she never felt she ments more and more, and when I She had a great life with tennis, until

a baseliner, never came to the net. She didn't have a great forehand, so she wanted me to have an all-round game so that I didn't fear anything out on the court, that I could just play everything, and come in and probably play a little bit like Navratilo-

Hingis was not named Martina by coincidence. "Well, I don't have the mentality to play like Navratilova, like being always at the net. I don't think in today's tennis you can do it anymore, because the women are not fast enough or just can't cover the court that well. It's just that before everything was slower."

Along with tennis, and an occasional football kick-about, she developed a passion for horse riding. The first time I sat on a horse I was four years old. They just put me on so that they could take a picture. I could ride a pony. The horse was just too big for me. When I was 11 we went on holiday to Italy and there was nothing to do but ride horses because it was already September and the sea was cold and it was rain-

Did she remember her mother working about the house? "My grandmother and grandfather were still alive, so sometimes we would go there and have lunch. When I was six or seven, before we moved to Switzerland, we stayed with my grandmother for a year. She just did everything for me. My grandfather would work so that I could play ten-

How difficult had it been to adjust to life in Switzerland? "Nobody likes to go to a different country where you don't know what to expect. I couldn't speak German at all. For three months 1 didn't go to school, because I had to learn at least a little hit first. Then they had the school holidays, so for almost half a year I was not at school. But I went to the second grade right after. They at first wanted to put me in the first class, but I said. 'No way'.

"In the beginning I would go back home and my mother would ask me what I had done at school. 'I don't know,' I would say. I wasn't very happy to go to school, because I couldn't speak the language and didn't know what they were saying. But after three months I understood everything, and half a year later nobody could tell that I wasn't Swiss."

Her English continues to improve. "A couple of years ago, when played just a couple of tournaments, I would go home and work with a private teacher, two hours a day. The rest of the year I would pick it up at the tournaments. English is the language of tennis."

Did Melanie feel that she had made considerable personal sacrifices for the sake of her daughter's career? "It was always a very interesting part of my life working with Martina and playing with Martina, and I never felt I made a sacrifice of my life."

At this point, Melanie chided Mario Widmer, her companion and interpreter. "OK," Mario said. Melanie is angry because I was not translating everything. She said she never met somebody like me, so

Graf kept off grass by rain

STEFFI GRAF, hoping to make her grass-court comeback at the DFS Classic at the Edg-baston Priory Club this week, was reduced to practising indoors in Birmingham yesterday because of persistent rain.

The 28-year-old German, who has appeared in only two tournaments since having knee surgery in June last year, is not due to play until tomorrow when she will meet Wang Shi-Ting, of Taiwan, or a qualifier still to be known.

Graf bas not played in Britain since winning Wimbledon in 1996 and since her knee operation has also suffered calf, back, hamstring and ankle injuries. She is, bowever, hoping to be fit enough to play in Birmingham, at Eastbourne next week and then Wimbledon.

Boris Becker said yesterday he might play at Wimbledon after all. Becker told reporters that his decision to enter the All-England Championships depended on how well be played at this week's Halle tournament. "On Friday, I will announce whether I play Wimbledon '98 or not," Becker said. Cedric Pioline, last year's

losing Wimbledon finalist, has withdrawn from the Stella Artois event at Queen's Club in London with a stomach infection as play was curtailed yesterday by the wettest day in the tournament's history.

Lomu looms for suffering England

RUGBY UNION

BY CHRIS HEWETT

IT GETS worse. England swapped the molten frying pan of Brisbane for the untameable fire of All Black country yesterday and were immediately greeted with the news that three of New Zealand's most precious rugby treasures -Robin Brooke, Michael Jones and dear old Jonah Lomu - had recovered from their various pains and strains and were available for the first Test in Dunedin on Saturday week. Predictably, Clive Woodward resisted the temptation to throw an immediate celebration party at the team botel in Ro-

coverage of the All Black trial match at North Harbour's spectacular new stadium in Albarry. Lomu did not put in an appearance - he is under consideration for New Zealand A duty in Hamilton this weekend - but the performances of four of his rival wings were of such stupendous quality that it will scarcely matter if the big man spontaneously combusts in the build-up to the Carisbrook confrontation. Jeff Wilson scored two tries for the "probables", as did Tana Umaga, while Glen Osborne and the mind-boggling Joeli Vidiri looked business-like in the ex-

"I'd say we have more strength in depth or the wing than anywhere else; we might pick any two of six Test-quali-

that Lomu's recent injury problems were in no way linked to his long-running kidney condition, which had been effectively neutralised. "I think we can say that England will see something of Jonah," he added mischievously. If the thought of Lomu Re-

visited is almost too much to

bear for a callow England outfit still being kept awake at night by visions of Wallaby tries, Hart was at pains to pay the visitors a degree of respect. "They'll be a better side in Dunedin than they were in Brisbane," he predicted. "The issue for them in the Wallaby Test was the pace of the game. These players came from a club environment and had to make an immediate step up against an Australian side that performed ominously well. It was a tough lesson,

at Carisbrook, although I have "Are we going to have another to say that we're disappointed that so many leading English names are not here; in the light of the way they played be- Italy." fore Christmas, not least against us, there was huge tenuating circumstances. tralia when the England squad We've just had a trial without 17 is a hard, hard game."

Hart would have no truck with the mocking tone prevalent across the Tasman Sea, where the motor-mouth branch was still operating at full decibel level yesterday. "There's a challenge out there for the All ton?" said John O'Neill, the ARU chief executive, who

Test like the one on Saturday? No way. There are other options: France, perhaps, or

All of which left Hart cold. "It's uncalled for in my view," public expectation in advance he said. "I was surprised by of this trip. But there are ex- much of the outburst from Auswas first named and 1 still take injured players. Modern rugby the view that it is not for us to pass judgement on the problems of other countries. We have problems of our own to

And what problems. Should of the Australian Rugby Union it be Wilson and Lomu on the wings, or Wilson and Osborne perhaps? Just at the moment. Woodward would happily swap Blacks: can they crack the any of his migraine-sized headaches for 10 of those currently afflicting his All Black quandary can sometimes be an-

SPORT ON TV TODAY

C4 12.30-1.30pm: Light Lunch. John Inverdale obsessives can catch him having the tables turned by Mel Giedroyc and

BBC2 2-2.45pm, BBC1 2.40-3.30pm, BBC2 3.30-6.0pm; Tennis. Live coverage from Queen's Club of the Stella Artois

BBC2 7.30-8.0pm: Home Ground: Boxing Babes. World champion Jane Couch finds that legal victories haven't changed the attitudes of the boxing establishment as she struggles for recognition.

BBC2 8.0-9.0pm: Cricket. Benson and Hedges highlights. C5 9.0-11.20pm: Cobb. Tommy Lee Jones plays the deeply unpleasant baseball hero.

C4 10.0-10.55pm: Euroballs 98. Eurotrash catches World Cup fever Stan Collymore joins Antoine de Caunes while the pneumatic Lolo Ferrari takes on Ramon Vega and Martin Peters at blow football. There's also a commentating nun in

BBC1 10.30-11.35pm: World Cup Preview. It does what it says, courtesy of Des Lynam.

ITV 10.40-11.10pm: Fantasy World Cup. Alleged comedians Skinner and Baddiel make the first of their everyother-day contributions. Statto's still there, as, sadly, is Singing Jeff Astle. Let's hope the show's improved since its last outing, two years ago. Repeated in the early hours, at different times according to region.

ITV 11.10pm-12.15am: World Cup 98 - Prelude to the Finals. Jim Rosenthal and Bob Wilson do their best to hide the fact that neither of them is Super Des.

C5 12.55-4.40am: Live and Dangerous. Aussie rules, motorsport, and at 3.45 Asian football.

Satellite Highlights

Sky Sports I 11.0am-2.30pm, 3.0-7.0pm, highlights 10.30pm-12.30am; Sky Sports 3 11.0am-2.0pm, 4.0-7.0pm; Cricket. Benson and Hedges semi-final cricket action. Sky Sports 3 2.0-4.0pm, highlights 9.0-10.0pm: Rugby union tour match - Griqualand West v Ireland.

Eurosport 7.45-10.0pm: Coverage of the World Cup opening parade - strictly for completists.

Chris Maume

added that the Wallabies might counterpart. One coach's As if they had not suffered ty performers and not suffer a but they'll get to grips with it. go elsewhere for their centeenough, the tourists also en-countered wall to wall television fall-off," said John Hart, the All "I'm sure we'll get a contest nary opposition next summer. other coach's idea of heaven. Black coach, who emphasised

Jenkins reaps the rewards of staying at Pontypridd

THE WALES outside-balf Neil Jenkins has turned down a reported £150,000-a-year offer from Bath and has re-signed for Premier Division side, Pon-

The decision of the 57-times capped 26-year-old brings to an end months of speculation about his future and is based on a deal that will earn him

£200,000 over the next year. Jenkins' employers - local company Just Rentals - joined

club to thrash out a five-year deal that is likely to bring him in more than £1m.

The amount could rise when the Welsh National League he re-negotiates his Welsh Rugby Union contract next year and he seems certain to become. one of the highest-paid rugby union players in the world.

England's Five Nations captain Lawrence Dallaglio is limiting his rugby to 35 matches next season and challenges other injured players to follow his example in the wake of the forces with the Sardis Road record 76-0 defeat in Australia.

rugby director Nigel Melville, which aims to give me no more than 35 games from start to finish. This compares with 80plus matches I played since the

start of the 1996-97 season." Effectively, this means Dallaglio missing selected League games from a total commitment of 26 Premiership fix-

tures, eight internationals and

tralian Barbarians side at Pen-

up to five cup ties. Spirits are running high in the Irish touring side despite

"I have reached a sensible two losses and a formidable the tour selectors their last arrangement with the Wasps game today at Hoffe Park chance to check on possible against Griqualand West on their South African tour The Irish trainer Warren

Gatland said a better performance can be expected from his players against the form provincial side in South Africa. Scotland face a strong Aus-

rith today in the final game for the tourists before they play their opening Test against Australia in Sydney on Saturday.

candidates before picking the final Test side. Among those in contention for places are the flanker Adam Roxburgh and the full-back Derrick Lee.

Cail J ridges, N Wood, V Costeso, G O Com-neggin.

SCOTLAND (v Amstralian Barbartans ed-drej): D Lee; H Glimour, J Mayer, I Jardine, A Balloch; D Hodge, G Burns; G Mcthwarn, S Brotherstone, M Stewart, S Campbell, R Met-calle, A Roburgh, S Reid (capt), S Holmes, Replacements: O Officer, C Jonner, I Fairley, C Mather, S Grimes, P Wright, K McKenzie.



England set a bold ager

CRICKET

BY DEREK PRINGLE a: Edghaston

tened the end for Michael er forecast had a hearing, it winning this first Corthill Atherton in Barbados has seems chique that Stevart blighted the first home Test of does not want to be regarded as Also Somet, his supersor as one of cricket's shrinking England captain. As in violens. Bridgetown, England con-

had become so sodden that premier strike howler.

the captains agreed that further play was unlikely. England, as well as the faithful who turned up and

hardled under unbrellas, deserved more than the sight of a waterlogged Brumbrella. Their cricket, despite the NASSER HUSSAIN linked up I'm very supprised they havent ming their strategy for a posti- ered by the recurn of their and fourth their way to relative broken finger sustained by Darren Gough, which denied mates yesterday happy to be them his services with the put in the unused position of ball, has been refreshingly underly for today's Benson

told. Only a timid phase on the and Hedges Oup semi-final second day, when the middle order allowed Paul Adams to bowl 17 overs for 26 runs, provided a glimpse of the caution of chi.

"I thought that for four days favourities after a number of everything went really well." Stewart said. "The way we bat - mestic competitions. ted on the first day, set up the platform for a good total, NatWest Trophy holders Esser though lising Gough was a big influence.

Nobody who has watched dits tipping Yorkshire. England over the past 10 years could have been prepared for and as an opposing captain

ATHLETICS

More tickets for the Kuala Lumpur

Commonwealth Games may have to be sold within Malaysia because of

the poor response overseas. So far only 31,000 tickets had been sold

locally and 29,000 in other countries.

AUSTRALIAN RULES

ARL: St Kilds 21.11 (137) Richmond 16.14 (110): North Melbourne 19.12 (126) Collingwood 13.19 (97).

BADMINTON

The English doubles players Simon Archer and Chris Hunt were yesterday named No 2 in the latest world rainkings.

BASEBALL

ONTERLEAGUE GAMES: Toronto 3 Philadel-phila 1; Ceveland 6 Cinchnati 1; Adanta 9 Bal-timore 0; NY Yankees 4 Florida 1; Minnesota

TODAY'S FIXTURES

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCHES: Australian Barbarians Scotland (10.30am BST) (at Penrichi, Gri qualand West (SA) v Ireland (2.15) (at Alm

CRICKET

BERSON AND NEDGES CUP Semi-finals (one day, 11.0); Lucestershire v Surrey (or Lerester); Vorteshire v Essex (or Headingley).
COST CUTTER CUP Semi-final (one day, 11.0); Hampshire v Northamptonshire (of University Semi-final Cup Sem

AON TROPHY (one day, 11.0): Minor Coun-ties + Lekestershire (at Banbury CC).

OTNER SPORTS

TENNES: Stella Artois Championship (Queen's Curb, London): DFS Classic (Edgbaston).

The state of the same of the same

fourth evening, when variable - means he will miss the next · ness was shurned and ITO runs Test at Lord's. With the fast were added in 45 overs in al - bowler fit and firing, England most complete dispegant for THE fustration of rain that has - salf. Whether or mit the weath - been further down the word to

Hormally such pun-action at 1.20pm. By then the outfield selves, even after losing their

with the rest of his Resex bear-

The acting Essex captain,

leading the side in the absence

to his side being rated as

successful years in the do-

will enter the Headinglev show-

down with the majority of pun-

They are a very strong side

3 Pittsburgh 2: Tampa Bay 4 Montreal 3 ; 11 / finangs): Detroit 4 Milhaukee 1: Chicago Cubs 13 Chi White 50x 7, Houston 7 Karnas Giy 1: San Diego 17 Teoras 8: Arizona 12 Oaktard 4: Los Angeles 7 Seattle 4; Anaheim 6 Colorado 5; Boston 5 NY Mets 0.

1 Pet GB 13 .772 -25 .583 1e//, 31 .500 15//, 33 .468 17//, 35 .426 20

24 .607 ~ 33 .450 9'/, 36 .400 12'/, 35 .397 12'/, 38 .367 14'/,

607 -567 2'/₃ 435 10'/₄ 433 10'/₁

19 .698 24 .579 31 .475 37 .393 44 .279

24 .607 -24 .607 -31 .500 6'/. 30 .492 7 32 475 8 35 444 10

AMERICAN LEAGUE EASTERN DIVISION

New York Yankees 4

WESTERN DIVISION

NATIONAL LEAGUE EASTERN DIVISION Aziamta New York Mets3 Philadelphia

CENTRAL DIVISIO

WESTERN DIVISION San Prancisor San Diego ... Los Angeles

BASKETBALL

Reigning champions the Chicago Bulls seized command of the National Basketball Association Finals by In-

flicting one of the most devastating defeats in the sport's history upon the Utah Jazz. The Bulls won 96-54.

the most one-sided score in NBA fi-nals history. The Jazz scored the fewest points in any NBA game. NBA Hanks: Chicago Bulk 96 Ush Jazz S4 (Chicago lead best of seven series 2-1).

But Hussain believes

of Paul Privilend, is accustomed

against Yorkshire.

almost certainly would have Tes_

made South Africa follow-on, samething Cominic Cork and Angus Fraser, with nine wickcoulded this metch for four days, on a team basis is reserved for ets between them threatened only to be decied by down- lost causes, or for when the se- but didn't achieve, probably pours, which yesterday pre- ries has been lost, as it was due to the extra workload. Intovented a simple ball from being against Australia at The Oral isolity, a missed stumping by though he denies the captainty last August. This time the mes- Stewart off Robert Croft on Saturday also hindered Engrain relenting, the match was unambiguous from the start: Land's hopes of making South unexpected than Cork's. He is ness of the gitch, particularly on the start: Land's hopes of making South unexpected than Cork's. He is ness of the gitch, particularly on the rest but opening booless beevermally called off as a draw England clearly famoy ther- Africa but again.

Cough's absence was a cru- to England colours, after an 20, since his last Test century

years, " Hussain said.

terruptions.

But like all four captains

plotting his semi-final strategy,

Hussain has been forced to as-

sess the rain factor and is like-

ly to ben the high-jinks which

are usually the norm in most

dressing more during rain in-

a lot of exerience of semi-finals

and quarter finals over the past

few years but at this stage any-

one can beat anyone and it's re-

ally how you are on the day

execually with a bit of min

CRICKET

The Warwickshire opener Andy

Moles, 37, will be out of action for another month as he needs a fur-ther operation on his Achilles ten-don injury.

Admission at Chester-le-Street will

be free after 4pm on Thursday and Friday for Durham's County Cham-pionship match against Northamp-

CORShire.

COSTCUTTER CUP Semi-final (Harrograp): Scotlard 60 for 3 v International XI. Mobil Abardoned: Scotland 60 for 3 v International XI. Mobil Abardoned: Scotland won by tops of a coin.

AON TROPHY (one day): Department (rain). Mediatronic Susses. 281 for 6 in K Rao 73.

G R A Campbell 53): Kent 29 for 0. March abardoned (rain). Wiselssop College: Lancashin 38 for 0 v Notdinghamshire. Match abardoned (rain).

CYCLING

Britain's Olympic bronze medallist

Britain's Olympic bronze medallist Max Sciandri won the first stage of the Criterium du Dauphine Liberé in France yesterday. The German Jens Voigt took the overall leader's Jersey. CRITERIUM by DAUPHINE LIBEREE. Brastsage (Villembanne or Charagness, 190 km): 1 M Sciandri (BG) Shr 15min 04sec, 2 Judgt (Ge) same time: 3 C Capole (Fr) + Imin 29sec, 4 C Lombard (M; 5 V D) avandam (Rast: 6 S Barthe (Fr), 7 U Nazon (Fr), 8 G Verheyen (Bel; 9 C Lambur (Fr), 10 A Verhouse (Nett), all same time. Overall standings: 1 Voigt Shr 20min 49sec, 2 Sciandri + 2sec, 8 C Boardinan (GB), + 1:25; 4 C Morsau (Fr) same time. S L Jaisbert (Fr), 1:30; 8 O Baranderd (Po), same dime. 7 P Jorder (Neth) 1:29; 8 C Capele (Fr), 1:30; 8 N Jaisbert (Fr), 1:31; 19 R Sorenen (Den), 1:33.

EQUESTRIANISM

The Great Britain team is languish-ing in 13th place after the Lucerne and Lisbon contests in the Samsung Nations Cup Series. Only the top sev-en countries will qualify for the fi-nal at Donaueschingen in Germany

In September, SARSUNG NATIONS CUP SERIES: (Literne, Swite): 1 Prance 8.25 tauls (8 an nump-off): 2 Sweden 8.25 (14 in jump-off):

To prepare themselves.

Essex have already begun plan- with Leicestershire strength-

SPORTING DIGEST

arouni, " he stressed.

"Our particular side has had

the batting orslauth on the fir at least three weeks, which probably the highpoint of an Athenton has been determined using to take its tall on Allen ultimately frustrating five to classics way been to for-

> Having put his injury and domestic problems behind him, Curk did more than a pessable - captainty, at less initially. But - sike plausible as he had at inimitation of the player who rather than a weight off his jernion in the intro-the They might even have even the scene against the West In- taincy has made nim even hermis importable. dies in 1995. The victors outswing is not quite book, but - prove his tetting worth, some - result is brund to be of concern neither are the historicals, a thing his skilfully constructed and South Africa will almost be trade-off most will live with for century, as well as his second- furved to play them in the the present.

Freed of his millstone, was ever a burden, Atherton's distins, South Africa's boulers lines had intended at the areas return to form was perfects less direct all a sensible, alimit sub- the first day, described active towar. Tests. Along with Atherton's well born man, not given to taking saxy that simply hasn't firstcrafted century, wher's return easy options. Averaging just coming.

with the bet.

more aware of the need to

were diserco

Hussain relishes Essex role as underdogs

result after a wash-out - if inth today and tomorrow's reserve day are rained off. Yorkshire welcome back Australian battimo star Cer ren Lehmann who missed the championship and Sunday

tion's method for deciding a

League games against Leicestershire with a back problem. Yorkshire skipper David Byes said: We have reached

semi-finals in recent years and you can get larry and make shine and England come out on lost and now we have to show mistakes." that we have the mental toughness to go one better." Defending champions Surrey

FOOTBALL

John Stockwell resigned yesterday after three years as charman of Hal-

ifax Town to spend more time run-ning his textile company.

First Division champions Nottingham Forest have granted a testimonial to long-serving defender Steve Chettle. The Football League recorded the best attendances for 38 years last reasons with 8 3m attending No.

season with 8.3m attending Nationwide First Division games. Sunderland led the way with an increase of 60.5% on the 1996-97 season.

of 60.5% on the 1990-97 season, with an average attendance of 33,492. Manchester City were third despite being relegated, REPRISENDITOF FRENCH PROCESS CONTRACT SHORT IN (Andrew 70), Sector X 1 (Andr

GOLF

Seve Ballesteros and Sandy Lyle have confirmed they will be in the field for the Standard Life Loch Lomond

for the Standard Life Loch Lomond tournament next month. LPGA floor [St Louis, Missourf]: Leading final scarts (US ealess stated): 208 A Sorenstein (Swe) 67 73 68: 0 Andrews 72 66 70. 211 5 Hallock 74 68 69 214 L Kare (Coil) 71 76 67: P Hurst 75 70 69. 218 J Gallagher-Smith 71 72 72. 218 M Spence-Devilla 73 76 67: A Finney 73 72 71: C Keggi 72 77 72: 5 Lowe (CB) 70 74 72; K Webt 74 69 73; C McCurdy 71 71 73: L Wiest 71 71 74: C McMillan (Cl) 68 73 75. Selected exherts: 221 M McKray (CB) 73 75 73. 225 P Wilght (CB) 73 75

(GB) 73 75 73. 225 P Wright (GB) 72 76

got to more finals in recent ble bowl-out - the competi- land Test players.

Alec Steart and Merk Butcher will be had: as they aim to continue Surrey's unbeaten run in the Skii so far this season - wirning all their overcoming much-fancied Lancashire in the quarter-firal.

But captain Alam Hollicake has warned against the langers of complacency. We must not be art said, "the series is set up over confident. If that sets in well, Hopefully the sun will

The tie will be given added spice by the fact that Leicestershire will be led by Orris go into the other semi-final Levis, who left Surrey at the end of last season.

MOTORCYCLING

Donald and Shaun Fallack Both fast colors are re-In his perverse way, Amer - moret to be marging infinite ton theired on the pressures of a local of a dominally had burst so impressively on to shoulders, the loss of the cap- matrix; and follows a double

Their lack to term in this innings cameo, amply con- three-day tetch against Susest, beginning or Friday. This Confirmed by helpful are is estagemaily not wet the dis-

Mercieles, if we of their strengths was well under par, Perhaps the international the immai teration as well as dial factor and he will be out absence of 16 months, was in Christchurch 16 months ago, grand of the last year is begin- the depth of their benting order were well to the fore. Neeting 25 to said the followers, and in deep transe at 111 for 4, South Admos, mainly through a Aghting 55 from Joney Phydes, ST.

Providing Gough can return for the trial Test - by Which tive the farme of install's World Con should have died down - this series aculd be as group games before easily chose and hard fought as everyone, including the angland captain, is predicting.

> "With two sides looking to play experitive cricket, " Stew-

CORNNE L'INSURANCE FIRST TEST Edgbastoe (no play yesterday): Erg-land 462 (M A Atherton 103. M A Burch-er 77; A A Donald 4-95; and 170 for 8; South Africa 343 (J N Rhodes 95. D J Cullinan 78. J H Kallis 61, L Klusener 57; D G Cork 5-93, A R C Fraser 4-103); March drawn.

SSE OF MANY TIL Lightmoligher races (2 laps, 75.56m0bas): 1 J Dunkop (Honda) 46mm 51.65ec (96.61mph); 2 8.3ectors (Yamaha) 47.34-7; 3 J McGulmers (Honda) 4 7.48-5; 4 Courtney Honda 94.050; 5 J Griffinis Honda 94.32-4; 6 G Lee Yamaha 48.40-5; 400cc classes 1 P Wilkiams Honda Sümins 27.9sec; 2 N Piercy Yamaha 51:05-5. TENNIS RALLYING

ACROPOLIS RALLY (Delphi, Gr) Second leg: 1 0 Aunol (Fr) Toyora 2hr 52min 52,3sec; 2 C McRae (199) Subaru 2:52.17.1; 31 Krafturen (Fin) Ford 2:53,05.6; 4 C Saint (Sp) Toyota 2:53 (SL2.) SR Burns (39) Mesubaru 2:53 35.5; 6 P Lint (R) Subaru 2:53,37.8; 7 F Lots (Belj Toyota 2:54,39,3. RUGBY LEAGUE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL PREMIER Manny 12 Canberra 24.

RUGBY UNION Wakefield's former Yorkshire and North divisional player Stephen Townend has been named director of rugby at the club he has served on the field and more recently as a coach for the past 20 years.

SAILING

Nigel Musto, partnered by Andy Hind-ley, in his Open 60 was beaten into fifth place by Mark Gatehouse's ri-val Open 60, in yesterday's opening 230-mile leg of the Two-Handed Round Britain and Ireland Race. Path etroppens Championships pri-emotics. Port: Scores after day 1: 11 Per-ty (GB) 1pt. 40 Zeich (Pol): 2:3 Esten (NZ) 2: Obser GB: 9 R Scenbouse 9: 11 R McMi-lan 1d: 46 I Les 46: 15 R Chaph 55: 58 R Ward 58; 68 I De Leeuw 68: 76 T Carrier 76

SOUASH England's Cassie Jackman defeated the world champion Sarah Fitz-Gerald of Australia in the final of the Mercedes Open in Seattle. It was Jackman's first victory in a major fi-nal in four attempts over Fitz-GerMERCEDES OPEN (Sentile, US) Final: C Jackman (Engl b) S Fitz-Gerald (Aun) 7-9 9-5 9-4 9-1.

STELLA ARTOIS GRASS COURT CHAM-PTONSHIPS [Queen's Clob. Loadon]: Pirst-roaset M Philippoussis (Ausl level with 1 Burillo (5p) 2-2: 5 Sorgisin (Arm) leads M Lee (68) 6-2 4-3: 8 Shock (Zim) leads G Canas (Arg) 6-2: 1-1: 5 Draper (Aus) leads M Teb-butt (Aus) 5-2: 0 Van Scheppingen (Neth) leads 5 Grosjean (Fr) 4-3. Martons resume Addy. leads 5 Groslean (Fr) 4-3. Mortries resume forday.
GERSKY WIEBER ATP OPEN (Hallo, Ger)
Frash-rosads R Kindske (Neth) by V Spades
(US) 5-7 6-2 6-2: M Largson (Swe) by 3 Muster (Au) 6-3 6-2; I fohansos: (Swe) by 3 Kinds (Ger) 6-6 7-7-5; P Konda (Cz Rep) bx M Goesner (Ger) 6-1 7-6: S Campbell (I/S) by 1 Kindpschild (Ger) 1-6 7-6 6-3.
CURRESBO CLAN-COURT TOURNAMENT (Bologna, M); Men's singles, first-rosad; F Squillari (Arg) by F Clavet (Sp) 6-3 4-6 6-0; E Awardz (Sp) br F Mellgeni (Br) 7-5 6-3: O Gross (Ger) bt F Vicente (Sp) 6-3 6-4.

TODAY'S NUMBER

10

The number of minutes it took Scotland supporters to empty their Air France flight's stock of lager. The bar was restocked during a stopower in Birmingham.

Dance lame after Derby

GREEK DANCE, a diseppoint ing fifth when a leading famoy the Derby Lame on his left-hind for Saturday's Derry, suffered an injury during the race it emerged yesterday.

FIRST SHOW

		_			
SALIS	BU	RY	3	. 15	
Horse	C	_8	L	_ 5	_1
Distinctive Oreas	7-1	7-0	\$-1	(3-Z	13-2
Golden Power	3-1	8-1	7-1	8-1	7-1
Planding	7-1	2-1	\$-1	7-1	7-1
Skr.long	9-1	8-1	5 -1	. _. B-1	5-1
Besist The Force	9-1	9-1	10-1	8-1	10-1
Mareneo .	9-1	10-1	84	11-1	1-03
People Filing	10-1	8-1	8-1	<u>B-I</u>	9-1
Tags	B-1	9-1	12-1	11-1	7D-1
Policy Prince	12-1	12-1	14-1	14-1	12-1
Sency Dames	144	12-1	10-1	14-1	11-1
Top Bragana	144	16-1	16-1	16-1	14-1
Deka Spieli	16-1	18-1	20-1	15-7	16-1
Hard To Figure	14-1	20-1	12-1	14-1	20-1
Dia Linners	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1	28-1
Jagani	25-1	33-1	33-1	33-1	33-1
Resiles Resolution	33-1	33-1	25-1	33-1	33-1
Wetelle	25-1	25-1	33-	25-1	25-1
Fact may a specific i	in at	k place	K J	134	_

*Greek Dance came out of limb, Michael Stoute, his trainer, said 74 thorough exemination is being carried out and a further statement will be issued when this has been concluded. The colt, who started at 5-1,

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: Indian Missile (Salisbury 4.15) NB: Golden Pound (Salisbury 2.45)

had won impressively at Newmarket and York prior to Epson.

Adrian Maguire, whose winning comeback from injury at Newton Abbot on Saturday was spoilt when he was suspended for 10 days for causing intentional interference, has decided to appeal against the decision. There is only one race mesting in Britain today after the card scheduled for Redoar was abandoned due to weterlooging .

Horse (flowertweight)	Coral	William (18)	Ladarohee	Stanley	Tot
Bushmental (M. Prescott/Bst-3h)	5-1	8-1	8-1	B-1	8-
Rabem (R Faley Bs(1lb)	16-1	16-1	16-1	16-1	16-
Crompton EEE (N Grahata/8st 10fb)	20-1	16-1	20-1	16-1	20.
Durnamay (H Cecil/Bst 138s)	20-1	20-1	16-1	16-1	16-
For Your Eyes Only (T Easterby/Bat 11 b)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-
Golf Street (E Alston Bs. 1 16)	20-1	16-1	20-1	16-1	18-
Back fisicon (Lady Hernes-39198)	20-1	16-1	20-1	16-1	14
Selfish (H Cec), 7s; 13h)	20-1	20-1	26-1	20-1	20
Star lander (M. Stoute 7st No)	10-1	16-1	14-1	16-1	20
Betwee Mels (J. Comain 9st)	25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1	20
Brave Remard (M Stoute 7s; 10th)	20-1	25-1	20-1	20-1	20
Fly to The Stars Seest by Succor act 1 th	25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1	20
Resonatora Scar U Duniop Sstub)	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20
Mishah /3 Hanbury 7st 10th	· 25-1	25-1	25-1	25-1	20
Ramour (B rischery 9x12h)	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20
Separation (8 HS), Est (Re)	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20

RACING'S FUTURES MARKET

Horse (Paper wegit)	Coral	Walter Pill	Lathroles	Stanley	Total
Shekaring Sicy (J Danton 9:55b)	9-1	8-1	7-1	9-1	S-
Apache Red ID Elsocate EstSits	20-1	14-1	10-1	[6-1	14-
Cheest G Moore 35:10Ro	20-1	20-1	16-1	20-1	16-1
Double Action (T D Esserby 9st4b)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-
Family Crest (A.O'Bren M.7st13b) .	16-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-1
Getobeloil (L. Comza, Sat 73)	20-1	20-1	15-1	(6-)	16-
Nuclear Debate (No.) Renisden/8st30h	141	20-1	20-7	20-1	16-1
Perryston View (P Cal. or. 2st 1 (b)	20-1	20-1	20-1	28-7	16-
World Primiler JC Pristain Sec 7(b)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	16-
Always Alght (K Surie Bs(5th)	25-1	25-1	33-1	33-1	- 20-
Hall Magde (D Escaph SatSib)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1
Ingaroupee (7 Balting BstZb)	25-1	25-1	20-1	25-1	20-
ady Shannon (2) Field h1/95/06)	20-1	25-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
No Entrus (G I. Moore-BstStb)	33-1	33-1	25-1	33-1	20-1
Scenare Mr Micegury (E Alston/75:1 3th)	20-1	20-1	20-1	20-1	.20-1
Oppet (P Makon, BstSRb)	20-1	20-1	25-1	20-1	20-1
Gellateurstpark Flyar II Berry/95867b)	25-1	20-1	14-)	16-1	20-1
Pripile Harp (R Harmon 9st4th)	20-1	20-1	33-1	20-1	20-1

RACING RESULTS

PONTEFRACT

by N Graham at Newmaniet for E n Ceve-land).
Totes: £4.80: £1.20.£6.40.£1.10.DF: £104.70. CSP. £102.19, Trio: 144.70. The winner was bought in for 5.000 guineas. 3.45: [1m handicap)

1. NATIE KOMATI — F Norcon 25-1

2. Al Reet — Deam McKoown: 3-1 fair 3. Tapatch — Shamamore 40-1 Also Fair 7-2 Barresto (44th), 5-1 Fai-lah, 6-1 Tie Break, 7-1 Rosa Royale. 10-1 Winston (54th). 12-1 Fowes Tail (66th)

9 rae. 17: 3. 4. 1, 17: [Winner buy fli-by by Komaire out of City To City, trained by Mrs G Rees at Preston for the Red Rose Partnership). Rose: £18.00; £3.20. £1.40. £5.50. DF: £20.40, CSP. £88.97. Tricast: £2.773.27. Trio: £382.40; £134.67 car-ried forward to Salisbury 3.15 today.

an Spark, 25-1 That Man Again, 3.5-1 Hawai Al Nasamaat. 13 ran. Y., 1, Y., Ind., 3. (Winner chest-nut colt by Salse our of Chassanoh, mained by J Bethell at Middleham for Shelikh Amin Dahlawi). Tobar 57.10: E2.30. £2.30. £2.70. DF: £45.40. CSF: £69.75. Tricast: £652.16. This: £145.20. L45: (6f 2yo novice stakes)

E652.16. Yino: E145.20.

A-45: (6f Pyo novice stakes)

1. ELABO HERO JM R Sashibum 11-10 fav

2. Pet Express Plyer — J Wesner 5-1

3. Evastve Step —— J Carroll 33-1

Also rast 13-2 Bon Ami [Asth), 7-1 Springs
Noblequest, 8-1 Palace Green, 33-1 Press
Times (6cp), 40-1 Res. is Okay, 50-1 Air

Of Esteem (5cb), Ultra Calm.

10 ram. Hd, 5t-hd, 8. hd, 2½. (Winner bay
cott by Polar Folcon out of Minadio,
trained by I Noseda as Newmaricate for Mrs.

J M Ryon | Tores E2.00; E1.20, E1.50,

E4.80, 01- E4.50 CSF: E5.58. Yino: E29.80.

5.15: (Im 21 apprentice handicap)

1. NOTRUE —— D Mernagh 16-1

2. Gilfring Dancer — J McAuley 10-1

3. Sasudbaggeddapala. S Hanamore 11-2

Also rare 6-4 fav Advance East (Ach), 5-1

Bend Wavy (6cb), Chimes Of Peace (5ch),

14-1 Footish Flutter. 50-1 Distant King.

8 ran. Hd. 1½. 7. 1. 1½. (Winner brown
gelding by Warning out of Callipoli,
trained by M Brittarn at Newmarket for
Miss Debi I Woods). Tobe: E17.90; E2.90.

E1.40. E1.70 DF: E59.40. CSF: E142.36

Incast: E904.7a.

Places E27.515.20; E47.554 52 carried
forward to Salisbury roday.

Places E206.79. Place 5: E127.45.

NOTTINGHAM NOTTINGHAM

2.30: 151 2yo maiden states:

1. PORMATIE — IT Spraka 4-5 faw

2. Entropy — R Hoghes 7-1

3. Riverbise — J Fortunet 0-1

Also rate 3-1 Gold Crystal, 9-1 Honey Bee,

10-1 Zmite (Add), 1-4-7 Franklin-D (Stah),

25-1 It's Gur Secret, 33-1 Bewetena

(6th), My Man Friday,

10 ran. 3, /s. 1/s. 3/s. 2/s. (Winner chestmut filly by Forty Niner out of Danzanie,

troined by Roger Charlton at Beckhampton for K Abdullah), Yobu 52.00; E1.40,

E1.50, E3.00, DF, £10.30, CSF, £8.74, Irlo:

E27.70.

Company

E340.77. Trio: £101 60.
3.30: {Im stakes}
1. GREEN CARD __Pat Eddery 11-4
2. West-A-Minute ____ L Dettorf 6-1
3. Golden Dice ____ R Pallon 5-4 Fav
Also rant 5-1 Cycer World (4th). 11-1
5econd Wind (5th). 66-1 The Graduate
(6th).
6 ran, Hd, 31/, 1, 3, 16. (Winner brown
cost by Green Doncer out of Dunkellin,
trained by 5 Woods at Newmarket for P
KL Chu). States £4.07. £7.0 G. 3.20 Ge.

K L Chu). Total £4.00; £1.70, £3.20. DF: £11.00 CSF: £17.25. 4.00: (Im 3yo fillies handicap)

1. MUSTICILE DRESAW - Per Eddery 12-1

2. Sahara - T Quinn 12-1

1. MUSTICHE DREAM - Per Editory 12-1
2. Sabara - T Cullin 12-1
3. Moon Gorge - T Cullin 12-1
3. Moon Gorge - T Cullin 12-1
4. Moon Gorge - T Cullin 12-1
4. Moon Gorge - T Cullin 12-1
4. Mryan 3-1
4. Mryan 10-1
4. Mryan 10-1
4. Mryan 10-1
5. Moonstone 33-1
6. Gider 12 ran 1. 1/9, 1. Mryaner bay Rily by Don't Forget Me out of Jamascan Punch, trained by R Charlton at Beck-hampoon for Waffe Sald). Rober £16.80:
£3.40, £3.70. £1.70. DF: £59.40, CSF:
£154.31. Thicast: £513.46. Thio: £187.20.
NR: Cornilower Fields.

E1.70. E2.40. E2.70. DF: £18.00. CSF-£20.86. Tricast: £716.13. Tho: £54.80. 5.00: [Im 2f apprentice stakes] 1. Dalle Med CLOMER: ...H Blasstown 4-1 2. Westminester ... A Michoelis 5-2 Fav 3. Schnooxde ... Darren Moffatt; 14-1 Also ras: £1 Hunt Hill, 8-1 Daring News. 10-1 Petane. 12-1 Chairmans Choice. Meilleur (4sth). Rivel Bid (6sth). Sand Cay. 14-1 Classic Colours (5sth). Glamorgan. Java Shrine. Jukebox Ihve. 25-1 Sahhar. Thoughtful Kate. Top Of The Green. 17 ran. Hd, 6, 3 Vi. hd, 1. [Whiner chest-nut filly by Minsser Son our of Lady Clemen-dne. trained by R Basdman at Wemen-dne. trained by R Basdman at Wemen-dne. trained by R Basdman at Wemen-tor. P A Brigham). Tokel £5.00 £2.20. £2.10. £5.30. OF: £11.30. CSF: £17.29. Tho: £69.80. NR: Danka. Ptacepot: £151.30. Chadipot: £28.60. Ptace 6: £262.57. Place 5 £173 01.

ETHE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULTS SALISBURY 971 981 REDCAR 972 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

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A calmer Fallon confirms arrival

The champion Flat jockey talks to Sue Montgomery about his more relaxed attitude now that the pressure to prove himself is off

WITH THE Flat racing season his own admission, a hit wild. coming up to its half-way mark champion jockey, Kieren Fallon, jury, be crowned for the second time in November. But there are still some puzzling aspects to the scenario.

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Why, for instance, did a fair proportion of the sport's pundits refused to acknowledge last year that the man leading the title race was actually the best exponent of his craft? And why did it take Fallon, with his highly developed will to win and extraordinary empathy with the equine species, so long to reach the pinnacle? At the age of 33, he is no hoy wonder, as were the likes of Dettori, Cauthen, Eddery and Piggott before him.

The answers are probably inextricably linked and lie within the nature of the man himself Irish-born like so many talented horsemen, he plied his trade for most of his career and money, but also profeson the northern circuit, a bread-and-butter round of business not exactly despised but a world away from the wealth and fashion of Suffolk and Berk-

And in those days he was, by transmit something extra to the

Which may be something of an at next week's Royal Ascot it is understatement if you considalready clear that the reigning er that, as well as picking up the usual punishments for riding inwill, barring cataclysmic in fringements that are part of a jockey's lot, he was, at various times, banned or fined for violent conduct, verbal abuse, misleading the Jockey Club stewards and hitting a horse over the head

It was two years ago that Fallon took his finger off the selfdestruct button. It was a close-run thing, hut the softlyspoken son of a Co. Clare texi driver finally seems a man at peace with himself and at ease with the world.

"I have Jimmy FitzGerald, who I joined as an apprentice from Ireland to thank," he said. "He took me aside one day and pointed out that the only loser was going to be me and that I was the only one who could do anything about it, My attitude and behaviour was costing me not only winners sional credibility."

Underneath the volatility was an innate talent that could not be overlooked. Fallon not only has the hunger and the. technique but the ability to



Kieren Fallon. I was an outsider, a stranger in the south and I just had to win that championship'

animals underneath him. Call it a will to win if you like; it is certainly a will to run, even though the discomfort barrier. He can make up horses' minds

By the end of the 1996 season Fallon had put his career back on the rails to such an extent that he finished third in the The jockey bagged his first two the time. I just wanted to get on a virtually un-

for one northern-based, He had started riding regularly for some of the big Newmarket yards and at the end of the year acquired the plum job as No 1 to Henry

heard-of total

Cecil's mighty stable. Plain sailing from there on in? Not at all, just more pressure, more stress. Eyebrows had popped through the ozone layer at the thought that Cecil had hired this graduate of Malton and Thirsk. A bit of rough,

what? But this time Fallon can cope now," he said. "I have stayed smooth.

It was a testimony to the his man's new-found grace under fire that Fallon maintained a title challenge through what proved a roller coaster of me to enjoy the moments as a first season in the limelight. much as I should have done at jockeys' table on 136 winners, Classics - the 1,000 Guineas on to the next day and prove more.

> Willie Carson is always criticising me for not getting hold of horses' heads, but to me that's gagging them, stopping the forward movement'

Sleepytime and the Oaks on not impossible, to have failed. Reams Of Verse - hut notori- I just had to win that champiously lost the ride on another onship. With the opportunities misjudged ride. And earlier this year came more adverse publicity when his integrity as a rider was called into question during a libel case.

counsel and rode the storm. "I most a fusion of identities.

finally learned to relax And that he said, "whether it's riding means I can enjoy it all more. trainer's judgement as well as Although I won those big races last year, I think it would be B greater thrill if I won them pow. The pressure did not allow

> outsider, a stranger in the south, and it would have heen difficult, if

star filly. Bosra Sham, after a I had been given, nothing else would have done." Fallon thrives on winning, sure. But sometimes that is al-

most a bonus on top of the sheer pleasure he gets from the Again, Fallon kept his own act of riding. With him, it is al-

"I just like being on a horse, work, or just riding in the country. But when you're racing you get the ultimate feeling, the rhythm and flow of the race, getting deep into your horse, getting him to stretch, becoming one with him."

One of Fallon's trademarks is that late, perfectly timed swoop so beloved of punters. "I love to ride them from the back, get them to switch off so they hardly know they're racing. Then I can stalk the field, cover everyone, make my move. When you have got the right horse under you, one than not only can do it hut wants to do it, it is sheer pleasure. Like when I won at York last month

"I like to throw them their heads, on the buckle end of the rein. I ride the horse, you see, the whole horse, not just its head. Anyway, you use your legs

on that lovely mare Bollin

and your body to keep a horse balanced, not your hands. Some jockeys just push the reins and when you see that you know they could be getting so much more from that horse. Willie Carson is always criticising me for not getting hold of their heads, but to me that's gagging them, stopping the forward movement. He says I'd look the part better if I did. But I'd rather be in the winners' en-

Fallon, with wife Julie and young daughter Natalie, is putting down roots in Newmarket with the imminent purchase of a substantial property, and his smile - no less charming than Dettori's - is becoming more frequent. "I would not have fitted into this job a few years ago, when I was in the wrong frame of mind. But now I can make it work, and I'm enjoying it." The man is no longer driven by demons, just healthy

Con man warned off for 10 years

BY GREG WOOD

THERE WAS a hint of Damon Runyan about a verdict handed down by the Jockey Club yesterday, when a con-man who made a living by picking up other punters' winning bets was warned off for 10 years.

The speciality of Raymond Hill, who was convicted almost two years ago of obtaining money by criminal deception on racecourses, was a fraud known as "blue betting". Almost all on-course bookmakers issue pre-printed, numbered tickets as confirmation of a bet, but their numbering sequence does not stretch beyond three figures. Thus, when ticket 999 is

handed out, the next will be 001. Hill would collect discarded, losing tickets from the betting ring, and then listen in as bookmakers struck bets with other punters, hoping that a winning bet would coincide with the number on an old ticket. He would then be first in line when the bookie paid out, leaving the honest punter disappointed when he presented his slip.

Hill was convicted at Derby Crown Court in 1996 of obtaining a pecuniary advantage by deception at Market Rasen. The case against him was heard in his absence by the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee last Thursday, when account was also taken of previous convictions for similar offences, but details of its verdict were announced only yesterday.

Hill was banned from all courses and any Jockey Club property for 10 years, and if he ever returns to a track, he will find his scam has been overtaken by time. Within a few months, course bookmakers will be required to issue computerised betting slips which include precise details of all bets placed. Some may mourn the passing of the colourful bookies' tickets, but progress will at least make life difficult for tricksters like Raymond Hill,

SALISBURY

2.15 Woore Lass 4.15 Classic Manoeuvre (nb) 2.45 Silver Lining 4.45 Trina's 3.15 IVORY DAWN (nap) 5.15 Krista 4.45 Trina's Pet 3.45 Farringdon Hill

GOING: Good (Good to Soft in places). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low numbers best for 5f & 7f. Right-hand course, mainly upfull and testing.
 Course is 3m SW of dry off A3094, Salisbury station (London, Waterloo-Eleter line) 3m. Bus service to course. ADMESSON: Members £13.50: Tartersalls £9; Course Ericlosure £4.50 (accompanied under-16s free all enclosures). Car park:

Free.

©LEADING TRAINERS: Mirs M Reveley 32 winners from 284 runners (success rate 11.3%), J Gosden 19-59 (32.2%), M Johnston 16-131 (12.2%), J Berry Tate 11.5 79, J. 15-132 (11.4%).

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2.15 EDDIE REAVEY MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (F) (DIV 1) £4,000 2YO 6f fillies Penalty Value £2,835

8-1 Sister Pazzice, Ercenta Dee, 12-1 others 1997: Parisian Lady 2 8 0 N Variey 33-1 (A Newcombe) drawn (6) 12 ran

FORM GUIDE

Bitcher Sweet: By middle-distance size Doploy, related to hurdle and Flat winners, Stoble juveniles slow to come to hand but Interesting jockey booking ners, Stoble juveniles slow to come to hand but Interesting jockey booking Coral Reef: Cheaply-bought newcomer by high-class 10-121 performer Karinga Coral Reef: Stayer and hurdles winner. Could find this on sherp side Bay out of Mamara Reef, stayer and hurdles winner. Could find the on sherp side Bay out of Mamara Reef, stayer and hurdles winner. Could find the on sherp side seventh of eight to Parriot at Warwick (5f, good to firm). Could take a hand seventh of eight to Parriot at Warwick (5f, good to firm). Could take a hand seventh of eight to Parriot at Warwick (5f, good). Big improvement needed

Million's Lass: Seemed to be getting the hang of things when stayed on after tardy start to be fourth of seven (beaten three lengths) to HI Nady at Newmarket (6f, start to be fourth of seven (beaten three lengths) to HI Nady to progress again good to firm). From a winning family and in-form yard. Birdy to progress again blue Otase. Perong fifty, half-sister to 7f and 9f winner Heathyards Sheikh. Stables Proceedings and yet off the mark and is probably best watched this time ble two-year-olds not yet off the mark and is probably best watched this time States Patrices 33-1 and not clear run, kept on when ninth of 16 (beaten 11 lengths) to Franco Mino over 5f here on debut. Likely to improve for the experience

ence
Tricklish: Newcomer by the speedy Cadeaux Genereux. Worth a check in the betTricklish: Newcomer by the speedy Cadeaux Genereux. Worth a check in the betTricklish: Newcomer by the speedy firing on all cylinders
ting that place that steer to the 6f winner Common Law by Perugrino, Yard
Bernald Boer Half-sister to the 6f winner Common Law by Perugrino, Yard
noted for speedy juvoriles. Another to keep an eye out for in the betting mar-

Goodenough Girl: Mac's Imp filly, sister to a winner and half-sister to several others but her yard is not noted for early luvenile winners at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Laws, From In-form yard but drew flittle support at Windsor [5f, Jamailcan, Jam

Gold .

Rodf's Girl: Rudimentary filly out of Charlton Achietic. Note market support as stable is on a roll and has already made a mark with its Juveniles as stable is on a roll and has already made a mark with its Juveniles Strapson's Domastic Pienty of chances in this grade and proved one-paced when fifth of 11 to Dame Judge at Brighton (5f. soft). Likely to find some too spool. VERDICT WOORE LASS showed plenty of speed in a higher grade at New-market and. She many youngsters from the Hannon stable, is likely to improve with the experience. Danger could be hazzaic, who was making a promising debut with the experience. Danger could be hazzaic, who was making a promising debut with the experience. Danger could be hazzaic, who was making a promising debut with the route and pumble has not damaged her confidence.

vided the rough and tumble has not damaged her confidence. | Defere running into trouble at Wartinck and Service the confidence. | Vided the rough and numble has not damaged her confidence. | Vided the rough and numble has not damaged her confidence. | Vided the rough and numble has not damaged her confidence. | Vided the rough and numble has not damaged her confidence. | Vided the rough and numble £2,836 | Vided the rough and numble £2,836 | Vided the rough and the £2,836 | Vided the rough and the first part of the

BETTING: 6-1 Hairmanerres, 7-1 Caudillo, 8-1 leary's Grab Hire, lear's Deed, 10-1 Young Besson, Baissons, Scotland Bay, 12-1 others
1997: no corresponding race

FORM GUIDE

Honry's Grab Hins: Profife winner last term and in good form when four lengths fourth to Outline from bad draw at Goodwood last week. Best on fost surface Silver Littings Abtent second half of last season after wins in amateur events here and at Leicestec Never a factor, 12th of 18 to Questan at Bath (1m, firm) larest Moung Besson: Little form for long wife until 100-1 chance, always prominent, length second to Nivapen at Musselburgh (1m, dead) last time. Could be fiattered Roffley Splinney: Dual all-weather winner early last year but has not shown much this term and looked unenthusiastic when weatened quickly in Brighton damer Prisos: Zamdes Decent four-and-a-half-length third to long Dawn in Goodwood of handkap a year ago but still a madeen and well beach both starts this term Octavia Hill: Wound up lost season with 7r maden win at Epsom but later sold for 2,500 grs. Hos shown little sparkle in three outrings for new connections Halpmanerror: Winner off 12h higher for Mrs Ramaden at Doncaster last term

for 2,300 gris, rise shown intoe sperice in time outrigs for new connections haptenermore. Winner off 12th higher for Mrs Ramselen at Doncaster last term and off the mark for new connections in Brighton claimer in April. Unlucky head second to irrepressible as Folkestone (7f) last time and should be thereabous again, hear's Dead: Best form on all-weather and socred brice as tingfield during the winter. Seven-week absence to overcome but interesting fockey booking. Caudillot Best on all-weather and has something to find with Halmanerror on three and a half-length fourth to irrepressible at Folkestone (5f, good to firm). Messer Thinks Thirlos: On a long losing sequence and gave Rittle cause for immediate hope wither seventh of 15 to Folist in a Warwick claimer last time. Feasones: Soft-ground winner of Saint-Cloud claimer when trained in France last season. First run in handicap here after fair stoth to Village Nathe at Sandown Gala Line: Varmouth winner (7f) last term and good fifth in Newmarket bumper last month but well beaten in two latest starts and little cause for optimisers.

lest sesson. First run in hundkap here after fair sixth to Village Native at Sandown Gaila Line: Yarmouth winter (?) last term and good fifth in Newmarkes bumper last month but well beaten in two latest starts and little cause for optimism Blarouse Visitery. Dual 10f winner in 1996 but out of sorts last season and has shown little sign of revival in two outings this term. Abstant: Moody sort but on his best behaviour when length-and-a-half fourth to Nervous Ron at Leicester (6f) on return. Stays 7f and cannot be ruled out Blattmans: Running well since return from all-weather, Slow start proved costly when running on fourth to Nass Alhawa (7f. good to soft) at Beverley last time. Significant jouley booking and one to consider. Splashed: Showed little for David Barron last term and has done no better in two all-weather outings for new connections this campalign. Physics Winner of Windsor claimer 13 months ago but below par in aubsequent starts and has since changed stables. Difficult to fancy Wanborough Laife Bath specialist these days and creditable fourth to Questan there (1m) on reappearance, but fully exposed from present weights mark. Sootland Bays Respectable fourth to Merson for present weights mark. Sootland Bays Respectable fourth to November. Staying on fourth to Mellors over 1m at Brighton last time and could find this trip too sharp.

VERDICT BATSMAN has had little tuck in running in his two most recent starts.

VERDICT BATSMAN has had little tuck in running in his two most recent starts but is on a fair weights mark and looks the one to be on with blinkers for the first time and the stronger handling of Pat Eddery. Hatmanwrus is not yet back to his best of last season but is running well and seems sure to be there abouts along with the consistent worg's Grab Hire.

3.15 49'S BLANDFORD HANDICAP (CLASS C) £10,000 added 6f Penalty Value £7,555

_	_			
ł	1	212/4-	WEDVILLE (400) (D) (T G Womer) P Makin 5 9 11	5 Sanders
ł	2	602-07	DESTRICTIVE DREAM (17) (CD) (R Brennet) Lady Herries 4 9 9	Cockress 10
Į	3	3-3303	HAND TO FIGURE (14) (DI (I W Mursell) K Hodres 12 9 S	P # 100 DEV 31
	4	5012	TAUNGO (8) (D) (Noodles Racing) R Harmon 3 9 5	Den Their
	5	060-30	TOP EANIANA [10] (D) [Henry Candy) H Cardy 7 9 5	8 1900 600 (4)
	.6	00-001	GOLDEN POURD (USA) (15) (D) (A P Griffin) Miss G Xelieway 6 :	3 3.K Fallon 4
	۱ř	20.004	SER JOBY (USA) (17) (CD) (Mrs A G Sins) P Murphy 9 9 0	M. Roberts
1	8	110000	Ename, (23) (2) (1) M Bradevi J M Bradev 4 0 13	S Division
1	9	4035-1	RESIST THE PORCE (6) (D) (Mrs 8 Hoger) C Cyter 6 6 10 (60)	T Contra
	10	0-0010	PLEADING (23) (CD) (EP) (Lloyd Berned) IV Musson > 0 3	THE PROPERTY.
	11	500-02	PARTY PRENCE (10) (D) (Aiden Murphy) Mrs A King 5 6 7	
	12	0-1114	MARENGO (23) (D) (J 8 Sharp) J Alehurst 4 8 6	
į	13	00-005	PERPLE PLING (13) (CD) (A.J. McNae) A McNae 7 8 8	T Sprake
	14	000060	DELTA SOLET, (USA) (17) (American Quarter) V Scane 683	
1	15	00-505	THORY DAME! (30) (D) (Dean Nory) K Nory 4 8 0	Martin Days
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	17	62100-	. ELLA LAMEES (220) (D) (BBings & Broughbar) W Musson 4 7 10.	P Horton
١	_		~ 17 declared -	
٠	BE	T2NG: 1	3-2 Distinctive Dress, 7-1 Pleading, 8-1 Golden Powed, Sir Jo	ey, Bargo, 11

Only Prince, Blanchie Dream, 7-1 Pleading, 8-1 Golden Pound, Sir Jong, Tango, 11-1 Plany Prince, Blanchie, 12-1 Planyle Plang, 14-1 Hard To Figure, Nory Dawn, 16-1 Delta Solliel, Top Banass, 25-1 others 1997: Purple Filing 6 B B D Holland 6-1 (L Cottrell) drown (8) 8 ran FORM GUIDE

Methodie: Only second outing since April, 1996. Useful performer at his best but little show on only start last term. Wetching brief best today. Destinctive Dreass: Five-time winner for Ken Nory last season and as good as ever for new handler when unkney head second to Supreme Angel at Kempton on labist start. Course winner with obvious charge from only 216 higher mark. ever for new handler when unkicky head second to Supreme Angel at Kempton on latiest start. Course winner with obvious chartee from only 2th higher mark Hard To Figure: Amazing veteran who pulled off Bath hat-trick last term. Running welf but not yet up to his beat this term and has plenty on his plate Tangot Impressive winner of Pontefract 6f maiden and creditable second to Caribean Monarch at Windson Possible Improver but high in the weights Top Bonaman Drew a blank last term but signs of revival when half-length third on Doncaster reappearance. Yough task with inotperienced 7th claimer here Golden Possable Brighton 6th withner last term but 515. Could struggle after being raised 7th to 79 for three-quarter length Leicester win over Ocker last month Str Josey. Course winner on a long losing run but buck-to-form fourth to Supreme Angel at Kempton (6f) and 2th better with runner-up Distinctive Dream now. Unludy third in this race last year and should go well Januard: Wolverhampton all-weather selling winner in March but has shown nothing since resuming to the turf. Best watched Rastist The Forces Three-time winner last term and in the form of his fife when three-length Folkestone winner last term and in the form of his fife when three-length Folkestone winner last term. One to consider Pleadings Little to show either side of length Pontefroct win from Unshaken in April. On 6th higher mark but goes particularly well on soft ground Palry Primer Mid-season treble scorer last season and back to form with second to The Fugative at Lingdeld (6f) last time. Rain would harm his prospects Marrengo Early-season treble scorer last season and back to form with second to The Fugative at Lingdeld (6f) last time. Rain would harm his prospects Marrengo Early-season treble scorer last season and back to form when led to two furfongs out and finished fifth in Knobbleeneeze race as Newbury [7f]. Acts on any ground and likely to be a big factor. Delta Soleik last year's runner-up. Best effort for new connections when sket to form

MERCHAT DISTRICTIVE DEBAN appeared to have maintained his progress with his Kempton effort and a two pound weights rise may not stop him. although he laces still opposition from the back-to-form Purple Pling, whose Newbury display indicated that a repeat of last year's soccess is not out of the question. Sir Josy, suited by this course, is also likely to play a big part.

	3.45	(E) £3,750 1m Af Penalty Value £3,162
!	6110-5	FRENCHIGODON HILL (30) (D) (C Ranson) J Gosden 7 11 12 C Ranson (3) 17 V
1	3-2141	YET AGAIN (7) (D) (A P Griffin) Mes D Keheway 6 11 3 (Sex)
	032060	KAFIL (USA) (2A) (M R Pascari) J Bridger 4 11 1
,	661600	GLEDE PACH (USA) (66) (0) (8 Shinzo) J Jenkins 9 10 10 Dr 10 Manualiste (3) 14
,		RELAKES (231) (D) (Or A Kimber) K Cornerford 9 10 9
•	0-0500	FRIBULCIUS INTOTO (18) (D) (N R Pile) M Saunders B 10 9 Mr K Goble (8) 12
1	6500-0	HERRISHAN DANCER (B) (Kington Racing) 5 Earle 4 10 5 Nor A Haldsworth (3) 10
	33606/	PRICE OF KASHINER (132) (F & C Borry) P Hobbs 5 10 2
0	51002-	ROCK THE BARNEY (Z24) (D) (5 Marks) P.Burgoyne 9 10 1 Mr. R Fouristal (7) 4 V
1	300-00	COUNTRY THATCH (4) (B Summer) C Horgan 5 9 13
2	50350-	COLUMN SERVICE (155) [W. Correction) P Hayward 9 9 11 Mr V Lubardelt [5] 2
3	/60-00	TYROLEAN DANCER (UZS) (cross P Birchot) A Chambertain 4.9 10. JM-G Michaelle (7) 13
4	-16500	MYOSOTIS LETT (D) (Red Lion) P Hart 4 9 10
5	01330/	IL BAMBINO (JA1) [H J Marriers) A Chambertain 10 9 10
E	/500-0	SLIGHTLY SPECIAL (157) (Mrs R Nash) O'Thom 6 9 10Mr 5 Survege (5) 9
7	0-3000	OSCAR ROSE (35) (Mrs 5 P Elphick) M Bolton 5 9 10 JMr C Rine 5 B
		to a sen a land a land a land a few to the Manager for Min. 11

Norman seligits: Sec 1015. The burdent senigits: Tyrolean farter Sec 9th, Myrotus Sec 1015, 11 Instino Sec 1015, 1

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Petang: Raised filb for Apr win for Mark Johnson last backend. Successful over hurdles since for new connections and looks one for serious consideration Parringdoa Hall: Winner of Windsor and Redear bumpers last term. Respectable return over trip too sharp at Haydock and destined to be a factor here Yet Agains: Confirmed Kempton return to form with easy Brighton win and looks sure to go well again from only four pound higher mark.

Raillis Best on the all-weather so far and little show in similar event at Newmarket [1m], Steps up in trip and yet to prove he gets beyond ten furlongs (side Pattle Light of former days, Sparkied briefly on Southwell all-weather in Peonary, but it will be some surprise if can take a hand here Research Without a win since 1955. Stiding down the weights and little obvious chance on most recent efforts.

Rabalous Microsox All-weather winner in January 1997 but has been on the side since. Little encouragement from latest Nottingham effort.

Harbsham Dancer: Still a maiden. Switch of stable from Rod Milliman brought httle sign of improvement at Windsor last time.

Pride Of Kashmait: Useful performer over hundles but nothing like so good on the level for Peter Harris two seasons ago and still a maiden. Rock The Barriegs Switched stables from Mark Usher since landing a boys' race at Sandoven in September, Inconsistent, and lacks a recent run Country Thatch: Folicestone maiden winner on firm in August but little sign of return to form in two starts this term

Connergeous Kalgiter Successful over hundles during the winter but his Flat lossing sequence stretches back to Brighton in July. 1992.

Tyrolean Dancer: Drew a blank for Sean Woods last seeson and has given little encouragement in two outings for new connections this term

Mysockis: Lost his form after landing all-weather bumper at Lingfield in January. Wiley to need the outing for hew connections this term

Mysockis: Lost his form after landing all-weather bumper at Lingfield in January. Segistify Special: Placed in handic

ing the winter but has shown little sign of ability on the Plat.

Oscar Rose: Out of sorts since third on Lingfield all-weather in January. No sign of Improvement in blinkers at Brighton last month VERDICT YET ASAIN looked in cracking form at Brighton, where he was eased to beat Be True by three and a half lengths and could run up a sequence from this sort of mark. With the Gosden yard beginning to find its feet, Parringston Hill presents a big danger back over a more suitable trip and in the sort of com-

A 15 BRITVIC CLASSIFIED STAKES (CLASS D) £10,000

	Im 2f Penalty Value ±7,003
1	12120- AMAR-KU (277) (D) (Sultan Atmad Shah) Mess G Kelleway 5 9 6 S Sandars 5
2	524-00 GROOM'S GORDON (FR) (35) (Mrs H Focke) J Dunlop 4 9 6
3	0-6020 NORTHERH SUK (19) Worth Humphreys) T Mills 4 9 6
4	1464-0 TITTIR RUFFO (8) (D) (Mario Lanfranchi) 8 Meetran 4 9 6
5	11622- DOBBIANT DUCHESS [311] (D) (Mrs Diana Patterson) J Hills 4 9 3 K Palicon
6	4470-4 CLASSIC MARCELVIKE (17) (Paul & Jenny Green) R Hannon 3 B 7 R Hargins 1
7	222-30 HADITH (31) [Hamdan A) Makroum) P Walvyn 3 8 7
à	2-0332 REDUAN MISSELE (6) (R C C Wiles) O Chappell 3 8 7
9	0013-0 OTRELLY (34) (N Brass) R Guers 3 8 4 doubtful
-	- 9 declared -

BETTING: 3-1 Groom's Gordon, 9-2 Indian Missile, 5-1 Analo-Ku, 7-1 Dominant Do Classic Manuscrere, 8-1 Hadith, 10-1 Horthern Sat, Titta Ruffe, 12-1 O'Kelly. 1997; Lomberto 4 9 6 C Rutter SO-1 (V Soane) drawn (1) 7 ran

FORM GUIDE

Anak-Kirz Unruly on his final run last season but had an excellent campaign otherwise, winning four times. A front-number who is probably best on fast ground. Groom's Gordon Subduct displays from this sto-year-old this season (needed his initial outing and did not appreciate Chester's tight turns last time) can be excused. Sur the strike-race of John Dunloo's runners has been modest of late. Northern Some This four-year-old has shown a liking for rop-of-the-ground. Any

further rain would certainly count against his prospects.
Tiese Reiffer A winner at Goodwood 12 months ago, so theoretically should act well on this downland course. 9th of 16, 18) behind Brandon Jack at Windsor on

his responserance.

Densiness: Declares: Very creditable runner-up to Liffre at Goodwood (1m6f) on her final start less year. Trip and going Buely to be against this fifly coday.

Classic Management Fourth of 12, 41/, lengths behind Legal Lunch in a Haydock malden (1m 3f) in May. That seasonal debut will have sharpened up this colt. Hadden Postapoonad at Lingfield lest time when 9th of 10, 8 lengths behind Chrysolise (1m 1f heap). Yet to show he retains the ability shown as a two-year-old, hadlen Miledies Ron on Inside final furions, 2nd of 4, 21/, lengths behind Colleville at Warwick (1m 3f stakes, good to soft). Interesting that this colt is quickly turned out again.

VERDICT John Reid's mount indian Missilie could be leniently treated and must have a leading chance here after fallshing second just six days ago. The horse that beat him then, Collevine, is well thought of. The vote, though, goes to CLASSAC MANORUVINE who represents the Richard Harmon yard which is in superb form

EDDIE REAVEY MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (F) IDIV 4.45 II) £4,000 2YO Fillies 6f Penalty Value £2,835 FIORITS DREAM (A P Griffin) Miss G K-slevay B 7 K Fallon

BETTONG: 3-1 Lady Minck, 4-1 Sweet Compiliance, 5-1 Floor's Dream, Pride Of Londobb, 7-1 Divine Lady, 8-1 Golden Syrup, 12-1 Trian's Pet, 16-1 others 1997: Lisa's Pride 2 8 7 K Fallon 70-1 (Miss G Kellewey) drawn (1) 11 ran

FORM GUIDE

Flowa's Division a January Fifty by Soviet Lad our of moderate ricemsare Woody's Colours. Golden Syrrige a March Roal, is a Dolphin Street fifty out of 6t winner Sprint For Gold. Murtha Bality: an April Iool, is a Rambows For Life hall sister to two winners. Missing Tuels (a Formidable half-sister to several winners), was left behind from half-way when over 11 lengths shath behind Doctor Spin in a Lingfield nowice auction stakes [5f, good]. Tiffina's Pets (an Efisio Mily out of a well-bred, but poor malden), showed little promise on her debut when sevendi of 8, beasen 12 lengths by Blue Melody at Lecester [5f, firm) Divisio Ladys (by Prixe Sabo) is out of a 1m At winner but looked to have plenty of speed on her debut, collared two furlongs out and eventually flishing lourth, 9f behind She-Wolff in a decent malden fillies' race at Bath over today's distance (good), last month. Deliy Day Dreams by far the most experienced runner in today's field, has shown ability

In a decent malder filles' race at Bath over today's distance (good), last month. Delfy being Dreams by far the most experienced runner in today's field, has shown ability and been placed or this level without tooking good enough to win. Her last ell'ort was when outpaced last of nine, bearen 8t, behind easy winner Red Lion over 51 at Lingfield (good) Boong Banwer: a Petardio half-sister to several winners abroad, showed no promise on debut when slowly away and tailed off behind Doctor Spin at Windson (51, good to firm). Lady Mack: sprang a surprise when 33-1 on her debut, squeezing through inside the final hurlong to finish second, beaten 21 by Dark Albatross in a Kempton maiden /filies' race over this discount found in 5

ning miler Ruby Estate.

Arbor Ealist Started slowly when a 66-1 chance and 9th of 10 to Hasty Words in a Sandown

St maken event last month.

Pride of Loadwitz Showed some promise when hollowing up a debut fourth at Southwell with a 21/2 lengths third to Tamara in similar grade at Catterick from a tavourable draw.

Sweet Compiliance: Looked to have progressed when 3rd of 9, 5 lengths behind Sundae Gift on turf at Folkestone last time after finishing 2nd on Southwell Fibresand.

VERDICT LADY RIUCK would not have to improve much on her first run to this prize, and her draw against the stands ralls gives her every chance. The for the going the more advantage the low numbers should have. Plossa's Dream

5.15 BOOKER CHEF'S MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO fillies 1 m Penalty Value £3,844 3 BUZZY BONES (16) (Ales & Gatto Roissard) L Currian 8 17 Pernach 4 CURDESCENT (Cheveley Park Study M Stoute 8 11 Pernach 3 Pernach 4 CURDESCENT (Cheveley Park Study M Stoute 8 11 Pernach 3 Pernac

FORM GUIDE

taxy Blomb's: Stayed on at one pace to finish 21 third of 7 behind Sopran Taireen

Statistics of the state of the Honeybird: By Batshoof, a half-sister to winners on the half of 22, 14 lengths behind Solo Spirit at Lekester over 6f (good).

Kariya: Made favourite for both her 7f maidens to date, most recently going

down by 41 to Berysim at Goodwood 1 (good to firm). Caught flat-footed when the pace quickened that day, and looks sure to improve with the extra furlong. Krista: Pulled hard early on but still ran on at the finish when 31/- lengths behind Zante at Kempton (1m., good to firm), in May.

Mothers Help: Did not help her cause by rearing at the start in her only run, well behind Housekeeper on the Equitrack at Lingfield (7f) last year.

Bity Popper: Will need to improve considerably on her debut effort when unfan-

cled at \$0-7 and always behind at Sallsbury (1m 2f. firm).

Oberon's Miscral: The most experienced runner in the field, did not appear to relish a step up to 1m 1f when a weakening eighth of 10 behind Chrysolite at

Lingfield in a 3yo handicap.

Portaint: Showed fittle sparkle on her debut when slowly away and always behind Portent: Showed little spanue on the users, minutes but has only modes; form in a Kempton (1m, good).

Seattle Ribbon: Related to several useful animals but has only modes; form in two maldens, most recently when 81 third to Sharera at Salisbury (1m 1f, firm), Shardelow: Beimez filly out of 1m 2f winner Siprail.

Shardelow: Beimez filly out of 1m 2f winner Siprail.

Shardelow: Reverts to a mile after looking as if she would appreciate longer distances when running on to finish third, 31/4 behind Tajawuz at Ungfield (1m 2f, and to firm).

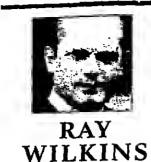
VERDICT Krista would appear to have bright prospects but it remains to be seen if she will settle. Forest Dresm lost ground at the start on her debut and Ray Cochrane's mount could be a threat today. Michael Stoute's newcomer CAM-DESCENT may well be sharp enough to take this, however,

Holders to reap new alliance of art and labour

IT is not just their wonderful mas-tery of a football, the goals that are so sweet on the eye or the com-pelling beat of the Samba that draws me to Brazil as the likely World Cup winners. Watch them closely again Scotland tomorrow and take note how hard they work to win the hall

Over the years so many Brazilian sides have set high standards in terms of flair and technique that it is an aspect of their game that has been overlooked. No other natioo puts so much effort into regaining possession, they are physically strong and they don't lack aggression either.

That so many of the team now play club football in Europe only enhances their chances of retaining the crown in five week's time. They



have become even more attuned to what is required to beat the European sides and they are brimming over with players of the highest

I had to name a star of the tournament in advance he would be the Europe. man. But Brazil have so many other shining lights: Roberto Carlos and his explosive free-kicks on the left, Aldair at the back and Taffarel, who is a solid, experienced goalkeeper, a position where you might expect the Brazilians to be weak. Then there's Denilson, a wonderful ball player who operates in an old-fashioned inside left position.

You cannot ignore Germany, who are an extremely experienced group and are tournament-honed. Take no notice of talk that they are over the hill - if you look around the top European club sides there are many players over the age of 30, all at the top of their professions, all physically

anticipated in Serie A. He only fit Argentina are a lovely mixture of needs a split second to score and if young and old and, like Brazil, a lot of their players are now based in

> They also possess a consistent goalscorer in Gabriel Balistuta. In fact all the leading sides have someone who can finish off chances and that is one reason why I am downgrading Spain's prospects. I know they put four past Northern Ireland the other night, but scoring goals was their hig failing at Euro 96 and I fear the same problem might befall them this time round.

You would have to rate the Netherlands' chances highly if they prove a cohesive unit. For worthy outsiders I would pick out Yugoslavia and Croatia although there are question marks about both regarding temperament.

we will be difficult to beat because we are so well-organised defensively. To go through the qualifica-tion without conceding a goal in the away games was a remarkable feat and that, allied to our hulldog spirit, should stand us in good stead. If we can reach the semi-finals it would be a wonderful World Cup for us because along the way it will have meant we have faced, and

beaten, some very good sides. I don't think it really matters in which order the games come. In Spain in 1982 we were nervous of facing the French in our first match but Bryan Robson grabbed that goal almost from the kick-off. It proved the springhoard to carry England forward

Against Tunisia it is important we

If England can get off to a fiver impose our character on them from the start. They will feel they have a chance but they will also feel inferior, and if we get hold of the game and demoralise them they should not be able to hold England.

It slightly surprises me that Glenn Hoddle has not shown his fullstrength side in the warm-up games. hut I believe he was trying to give every chance to those players over whom there remained a doubt.

I would expect him to start with David Beckham and Graeme Le Saux in the wing-back positions. There is an argument for using Beckham more centrally, but unless some decent crosses are put over for Alan Shearer one of England's strengths will be mullified.

It would not surprise me to see Paul Scholes fill the vacancy created by Paul Gascoigne's omission al-though Steve McManaman and Paul Merson also possess the quality to play there. I'm a great admirer of Scholes - he's a thinking footballer and at this level it becomes a game of chess with your opponent. You have to out-suss your opposite numher and Scholes is very good at doing

Michael Owen will have a major role to play in the squad, but Hoddle will start with Shearer and Teddy Sheringham as his firstchoice strikers. In the middle of defence it is any three from four. Tony Adams and Gareth Southgate are assured of their places, and with the World Cup about playing balls into strikers' feet that should help Gary Neville win the vote for the third spot ahead of Sol Campbell.

Scots will feel heat of blaze from Brazil

MARK BOSNICH has to smile wheo he hears a Premiership crowd singing: "It's just like watching Brazil." Having played one of the games of his life against them and still let in six goals, he is painfully qualified to warn Scotland and all who have designs on the world champions' crown; Ronaldo in full cry is like oothing you have ever seen.

Aston Villa's coveted goalkeeper played for Australia against Brazil twice at the Confederations Cup in Saudi Arabia last December. The first time, when Ronaldo was partnered by Bebeto, be was relatively untroubled as Terry Venables' Socceroos gained a 0-0 draw.

Eight days later, with Romario alongside Ronaldo, the Brazilians turned on a ruthless, relentless exhibition of firepower to demolish Australia 6-0 in the final. Both front men collected a hat-trick, leaving Bosnich fearful for Scotland's Jim Leighton in the Stade de France tomorrow.

"I know a lot of the Scottish players, as well as Alan Hodgkinson, who coached Jim and myself when we defensively. But being brutally hon- "I remember Ronaldo being est. I can't see them stopping Brazil.

"If we can bold them, then in theory Scotland can too because they're a better team than us. But they'li have to play out of their skins because we're talking about the hest of the best, with five or six worldclass talents, plus arguably the best player on the planet in Ronaldo."

In the goalless game, explains Bosnich, Venables countered Mario Zagallo's customary 4-4-2 with the 3-5-2 formation favoured by Brown. ensure that if one went forward, the other held back. Australia defended deep and in numbers, smothering attacks rather than allowing the ball to be played into space behind them.

"We contained them quite comfortably. It seemed hilarious to see frightening is that he's so young and them pumping hopeful balls into the will get even better"

Aston Villa's Mark Bosnich has a warning for Scotland after experiencing Zagallo's

box with 10 minutes to go, and to hear them getting irate every time I took my time over a goal-kick. Afterwards they didn't shake hands or swap jerseys because they felt we'd been a hit awkward, which we are."

When they recoovened in Riyadh four days before Christmas, Bosnich paid for his cheek. "Boy, did they get. their own back," he recalls. "They gave us a hell of a lesson, as if to show they could do it when it mattered. I know they've had a couple of bad results in friendlies but in a competitive situation, it's a different matter. For the first 20 minutes I've never been so tired in a match."

Australia's cause was not helped hy having a player sent off at 1-0, but what impressed Bosnich was the way Brazil kept up the siege. "At 3-0 their bench were signalling and shouting were at Old Trafford," be says. "I've for them to take it easy, but they were also got a lot of time for Craig Brown going, 'No'. They wanted to rub our and the way be's made them strong noses in it and score 10 if possible.

clean through in the last minute and I thought: 'Oh no, seven'. The only time I'd let in six before was in the Olympic semi-final against Poland. Mercifully, he hit it against my legs."

The irony is that Bosnich rates that instance, than his acclaimed defiance for Villa at Atletico Madrid in the Uefa to work it out and be's gone. Cup last March. It is just he encountered finishing for which even Euro-

"Whereas Romario was more The wing-backs were instructed to clinical. Royaldo was the better allmore awesome sight than him running at you with the ball, believe me. His upper body build reminds me of Dwight [Yorke] and he's got the same low ceotre of gravity. What's

formidable side in full flow. By Phil Shaw

In the absence of Romario, who Bosnich describes as "an iced assassin", Brazil are likely to chose between Beheto and Edmundo as Ronaldo's foil, Bosnich faced Bebeto when he played for the Spanish club Deportivo La Coruña. He found him dangerous, though less so than Romario. The attacks, he suspects,

will be just as mesmerising. "One of the front two goes short, the other comes in behind, and vice versa. Wherever they're going, the hall usually goes in the opposite direction. That's part of the plan. If they start running away from goal, nine times out of 10 the ball will be going back over the defenders' heads. If you come too close to them they'll get past you with their pace off the mark. And if you stand off them they'll take the ball to feet, turn and run at you."

While Juninho's recovery from injury came too late for him to make the finals, Bosnich still expects the holders to carry more destructive capacity than Scotland may be able to handle. "Denilson, wide on the left, is unbelievable. He's got a couple of incredible tricks. My mate Kevin Muscat, from Wolves, said he bad display as among his best, better, for two 'step-overs', which he does so fast they're like a hiur. You're trying

"Dunga was man of the match in the final. He sat right in front of the pean competition is no preparation. centre-backs and his distribution was staggering. He was picking out attackers with 50-yard passes and round player. There's no greater or they didn't have to adjust their feet. Then there's Roberto Carlos with his swerving free-kicks."

Bosnich, like Veoahles, was also struck by a camaraderie which belies speculation about Brazil being a divided squad. "They're obviously mates as well as team-mates. In a furny way, all turning up for the final with shaved heads showed their togetherness." Pressed as to whether he expects them to be back at St Denis for another final, he replies: They've got to be favourites, but it's hard for South American teams to win the World Cup in Europe."

The final advice from one who has been at the eye of a Brazilian storm: "Doo't commit yourself," Bosnich "We can achieve our ambition of urges Scotland. "They don't like it when you wait and wait. They love you to make the first move. As sooo as you do, they're off."



Ronaldo in flight: "There's no more awesome sight' says Bosnich

Photograph: Allsport

Brown's men to launch an offensive

By KEN GAUNT

GORDON DURIE yesterday coofirmed that Scotland's main defensive tactic against Brazil will be to attack. "We have to attack Brazil in much the same way as they will try and do," he said yesterday.

"If we sit in and try and defend, then they have the players who can destroy you. We have to create chances and pose them problems in the process.

Durie and goalkeeper Jim Leighton are the only two survivors from the Italia 90 World Cup squad. and manager Craig Brown believes their experience will be vital against the holders at the Stade de France tomorrow.

Scotland lost 1-0 to Brazil eight years ago, with Aberdeen goalkeeper Leighton in goal. Durie, who was on the bench that day, is anxious to set the record straight and help the team to a famous victory.

"Hopefully I will get the nod. and it will be up to Kevin Gallacher and myself not only to get the goals hut also put the Brazil defenders under pressure. We were a bit unfortunate to lose to them in 1990 and we are well prepared this time around.

"It is always a great experience playing the world champions, but facing them in the World Cup is a bit special. To be bonest the players haven't really spoken about Brazil that much, although that will probably change from tomorrow on-

Scotland have been written off against Brazil by many people, and the players are anxious to prove the

doubters wrong.

Brown said: The squad are hurting a bit about what is being said about them. They bave a great chance to display their character in this game as well as their technical ability.

"Take it from me, we are not a million miles away from Brazil. Our players are experienced, and if you look at our squad we have a team of winners. They are used to pressure games and big crowds. My team will not be unnerved by Brazil.

"The players aim to seize the chance with both hands and show they can play at the top level."

Brazil coach Mario Zagallo has been accused of bluffing after saying he did oot know anything about the Scots.

"I am taking his remarks with a pinch of salt," said Brown. "It is just a smokescreen. He clearly knows everything about Scotland as you would expect from the manager of the world champions.

"I know how tough this game will be, because I am convinced Brazil will be the outstanding team of the tournament, This team compares favourably with the 1994 winning side - they bave so many good players to choose from."

Zagallo stays confident

THE Brazilian coach, Mario Zagal-lo, cooceded yesterday that his in this team," said the striker. team's defeoce had "holes in coverage", but added that he thought it there is nothing in between. We are unlikely that any opponent will threaten it. "No team will make the the atmosphere in the group is exmistake of playing offensively with us." he said. "I'm sure that all will play oo the counterattack."

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"In Brazil It is victory or exile all united in our aim to win here and cellent," he added.

becoming the second South Amer-Ronaldo, one of Zagallo's main as- ican side to win in Europe (followsets, was no less confideot. "I want ing Brazil in Sweden in 1958)."

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The referees: England's representative in France tells Clive White how he will have to change his conciliatory approach

Durkin is ready to toe Fifa's tough line

WHEN Paul Durkin talks only halfjokingly of how England's success could jeopardise his chances of refereeing the World Cup final, he is under a slight misapprebension.

TOWN'S

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ffensive

It is not so much his native country who stand in his way of realising his lifelong dream as the favourites Brazil, or to be more specific, a certain old Brazilian and an alledged feud which dates back to a game between Brazil and Sweden in the 1978

The score in the first round group game stood at 1-1 when, with the last kick of the match, Zico turned a corner for Brazil into the net just as Clive "The Book" Thomas, the Porthcawl referee, blew for full time. To the amazement of the Brazilians, not least among them the then Fifa president Charles Joao Havelange, the fastidious Welshman disallowed the "goal".

As a consequence of that draw Brazil ended up in the group they most wanted to avoid, that of the hosts Argentina, and narrowly failed to make the final. Whereupon Havelange is alleged to have vowed that no Englishman would ever referee

Brazil again in a World Cup game as long as he was president - overlooking the fact that Thomas was as Welsh as the Rhondda - since when, in 25 World Cup ties involving Brazil, no Englishman ever has. With Haveiange's tenure ending yesterday, it remains to be seen whether things Some r will change.

The youngest ever to officiate at a Wembley final - he ran the line in the FA Trophy at the age of 24 -Durkin, now 42, came to the fore during Euro 96 when his friend, Dermot Gallagher, pulled up with a calf injury 25 minutes into the France-Bul- and Durkin admitted that he fell into. garia game at St James' Park Players are notorious for trying it on perceived as this 5ft 6in officious lit-

quickly stamped his authority and earned a high mark from the match

With the injuries suffered by Gallagher keeping him out for a year, Durkin has emerged as England's No 1, coming with "a late run up the rails" to overtake the referee whom many assumed would be going to France, Graham Poll. In the season just ended Durkin refereed the FA Cup final, in which, thankfully, he was virtually invisible, as well as two European Cup semi-finals, which is al-most unprecedented. But the match that may have clinched it for him, he believes, was a Champions' League tie last year between Rosenborg and Real Madrid, played in near treacherous conditions in Norway. Durkin scored nine and a half out of 10 from the Swedish observer, who also happened to be on Fifa's referees' com-

All of which makes this refereeing game sound rather competitive these days, and Durkin is unable to resist the temptation to talk about it in player-speak. "My main aim in France is to referee the one game I definitely get, to the best of my ability, which I am quite confident of doing. After that, it's a case of taking one game at a time," he said, suddenly realising what he had said. "And if I get another one I'll be over the moon. If not, I'll be sick as

Some referees nowadays, pergames, cannot resist playing to the gallery and Durkin, to his credit, recognised such a failing in his own demeanour earlier in the season and rectified it. The Fifa style of refereeing is very much "in your face" the trap of doing it all the time. "I was



Mickey Mouse (centre) welcomes World Cup referees, including Paul Durkin (top centre), to Disneyland Paris yesterday Photograph: Shaun Botterill/Allsport

to me was the Petit incident in October [when the Arsenal player shoved Durkin and was sent off). He shouldn't have put his hand on me haps due to these high-profile hut looking back I could have done certain things to prevent the incident happening."

Durkin's willingness to downgrade a red card which he had given Manchester United's Gary Pallister to yellow on video evidence was further example of his new style conciliatory tone. Similarly, he was more than happy to answer with substitute referees, but Durkin the sod which I'm far from being," he Gienn Hoddle's request to come

said. "I think what brought it home down from his home in Dorchester, where he works as a fleet administrator for a housing association, to spend a week at Bisham taking the players through the new Fifa edicts, notably the tackle from behind.

But Durkin knows he is going to have to be tough in France if he is to travel far in this competition. Fifa, obligingly, have warned the 34 referees that any who do not toe the line will be on the first plane home. "I know it sounds horrible, but if there's any doubt about whether it's a yellow or a red, I'll him them," said the officious little so-and-so.

Durkin, in fact, is nothing of the family - his father was a professional sort, although he takes a hard line on dissent. That, he has discovered, is the major difference hetween continental games and Premiership ones. "Abroad I have the total respect of the players," he said. "I think English referees are highly thought of. But it's always the way,

you're never appreciated as much in your own country. I don't know whether it's because we're not paid enough or what, but they tend to

look down their nose at you in this

- and played the game at junior level as a winger, he can empathise with the problems of players better than many referees. "I know what it's like to be kicked up in the air as well as kick someone else up in the air," he

He once booked his own brother during his first season as a teenage referee. "He took this player out with a thigh-high challenge," he said. "I just called him over and asked him his name. He said: You know my name'. So I asked him again even Having grown up in a footballing though Td already written it down replied sheepishly.

and warned him he'd be off next time. But he got home before me and toid mum, so when I got home I got a bollocking. But it did make me realise that I might be cut out for this game, I knew I could be impartial."

As a player himself he was also once suspended. He remembers it with great clarity and not a little shame.

"I was fined £4 and suspended for 14 days. It was for three bookings, one for a physical challenge," he said. And the other two? "Offering improper advice to the referee," he

Ellis a knockout during the Battle of Berne

Guy Hodgson on a referee who stamped his authority as Brazil and Hungary went to war in a 1954 World Cup quarter-final

Stuart Hall and Eddie Waring, he presided over It's A Knockout on Mighty Magyars won the gold television for 18 years, imposing rule

Which is akin to recalling Wellington for his boots. They happened but were scarcely important compared to the Iron Duke's destruction of Napoleon's armies on the Iberian peninsula and at Waterloo. Ellis was one of football's great referees.

Now 83, it is not an exaggeration to say Ellis' c.v. is the sort few players can better. He refereed in three World Cups, including the 1950 final, officiated in the first European Cup final (Real Madrid 4 Reims 3), the 1952 FA Cup final and was in charge of more than 40 internationals.

You do not become part of moments like these unless you are a special kind of whistle blower, but one match set him apart. The Battle of Berne it was later named and it was one of the most unpleasant games in World Cup history. Ellis was a man caught in the middle of

He refereed Brazil in the 1950

ANYONE over 25 probably remem-bers Arthur Ellis. Straight man to and also officiated in the Olympic final two years later when Hungary's medal. When he learned he would be in charge of their World Cup quarter-final of 1954 he was thrilled at the prospect

"I thought it was going to be the greatest game I'd ever see," he said at his Brighouse home. "I was on top of the world." It was a wholly deluded anticipation. "Whether politics and religion had something to do with it I don't know, but they behaved like animals. It was a dis-

Football was forgotten as vendettas were carried on. Nilton Santos and Josef Bozsik, a member of Hungary's parliament, exchanged punches and were sent off, at one point Djalma Santos, spitting and gesticulating, was chasing Zoltan Cz-ibor round the pitch behind the referee's back; with four minutes left Ellis dismissed another Brazilian, Humberto Tozzi, who fell to his knees pleading not to go.

The final whistle merely ended







thrown from the Hungarian bench (allegedly by the injured Ferenc

was hit on the head by a bottle thrown from the Hungarian bench was determined to finish it." Did he know about the fight in the dressing-Puskas) and the fighting continued off the pitch wheo the Brazilians invaded their opponents dressing room.

Amazingly, football's governing body did nothing, leaving discipline to the "It was a horrible match," Ellis respective countries. "Fifa turned a continued. "In today's climate so blind eye. Too many committee many players would have been sent members were afraid of losing trips off the game would have been abanto nice places." The retribution

never came. "They were the only players 1 ever sent off who were

never punished," Ellis said. If that match left a bad taste, then Ellis' first World Cup in Brazil four years earlier was one of wonder. He was linesman in the opening fixture, refereed two others and also ran the line in what, in a tournament run on a league basis, was effectively the

strong.
In the first game, Brazil's opening goal against Mexico prompted a pitch invasion, not from spectators hut from reporters and radio commentators trying to get quotes. In the last, a world record 204,000 spectators packed into the massive new Maracana in the expectation of a Brazilian victory.

Instead Uruguay won 2-1. "That crowd will never be beaten, they wouldn't allow it today. I remember Juan Schiaffino scoring for Uruguay. He mishit it but it went in at the near post and the reaction was amazing. The biggest crowd in football history and you could have heard a pin

As for England's notorious defeat by the United States in the same tournament, Ellis' reaction was the same as everybody else's, one of disbelicf. "I was refereeing Italy versus Paraguay in São Paulo that day and it was the first time I'd seen an electronic scoreboard because at that time they used to chalk scores on a blackboard and walk it round the field. We thought that England had won 10-1 and they couldn't put dou-

ble figures on the scoreboard." Forced to retire in 1962 at the age of 47, the timing coincided with

Uruguay. The images are still born, something he still participates in on company days thanks to Stuart Hall's buying of the props and costumes. It is the only refereeing he does these days and for that he is grateful.

"Everything is regimented," said Ellis, who selects Uriah Rennie and Peter Jones as the best of the current officials. "A referee can't use his ability, he's told what to do and has to do it. In my time you stamped your personality on a game. I wouldn't get away now with the things I used to

Like the time he calmed down a raging Bob Paisley. "I remember him threatening to part an opponent's hair if he beat him once more," he said, laughing deep and loud. "I of-fered him a comb."

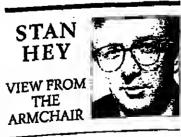
It is not just the fact that he saw Paisley, the greatest of English club managers, as a player that places Ellis in a different age, it is the humour. Can you imagine a modern referee defusing a potentially explosive situation with a joke? The only thing today's officials are armed with is an unsmiling demeanour and a pocketful of yellow and red cards.

You wonder whether today's automated approach could handle games like the Battle of Berne. France 98 prays there will be no rep-BBC exploring pantomime for etition but if there is you hope the

A place for Gazza in pundits' first eleven?

REPEAT after me je suis une pomme de terre du canapé. But most of all, say it proudly because, and I'm translating here, "we of the potatoes of the sofa" will be the real heroes of France 98. Ticketless we may be, but the hundreds of hours we are about to devote to the televised coverage of the biggest tournament in football history will be seen as the most noble of sacrifices as we forsake relationships, work, personal hygiene and healthy diets m favour of 33 days of wide eyed sloth and food-stained clothing. So why haven't either the BBC or ITV gned up our patron saint, Gazza of

The 32 World Cup managers were allowed the huxury of a 2 June deadline for announcing their squads, put the in which a masked figure construction probably epitomises unfortunately our two national



broadcasters covering the tournament had to finalise their line-ups months ago for publicity purposes. Somebody coming with a late run of form was always going to struggle to get in, and not many television folk could have expected Gascoigne's sudden availability for work. Unless there is a last-minute secret deal in the offing, resulting in a great coup

dow of a World Cup studio and re- football now that the market reveals himself, we are left with the searchers and focus groups have conundrum of why England's most had their say. celebrated footballer of the 1990s is be taken up as a television pundit. Some of the answers are too ob-

that Gascoigne belongs to an outmoded culture both on and off the field and would have had to undergo the same sort of intense, New Venison has endured in order to become presentable to a television audience. Short of changing his name to Jacques Derrida, Venison couldn't have upgraded himself more after giving up his bleach-blond locks and carpet tile jackets. But his re-

It explains why ITV pinched Rund too much of an embarrassment to Gullit from the BBC to be its lead analyst and why the Beeb immediately retaliated by signing up David vious to mention. The real reason is Ginola - it wasn't just a case of serving up the crumpet factor, but more that Gullit and Ginola are articulate spokesmen for British football's stylish new internationalism. For Labour makeover that ITV's Barry years, our television panels have routinely rubbished foreign players in tournaments for such assorted crimes as diving, not being good in the air, not liking tackles, being too emotional and going off for stitches to head wounds.

But Ron Atkinson, ITV's most vivid "colour commentator", will

swings on a rope through the win- what has happened to televised probably get a rocket in his earpiece. Alex Ferguson could be a real win- two things worry me about the trawl the xenophobic joke books of his fellow scouser Stan Boardman.

We are all Europeans now. Indeed, I suspect that ITV will move heavily into BBC territory durmistakes learned from the disastrous studio set up at USA 94 - only President Kennedy died more horribly in Dallas than Matthew Lorenzo and Denis Law - but also because the man who masterminded the BBC's years of superiority, Brian Barwick, is running their show. Without trying to take the ITV audience too far upmarket - they have signed retro-lads Skinner and Baddiel after all - Bar-

from the producer if be continues to ner, provided he isn't paired with Beeb - first, that they are a bit top-Kevin Keegan

Sheffield Wednesday manager Atkinson will make the studio more like a matically related adverts - undering this tournament, partly due to the Job Centre than a football forum, but arm deodorant and garden fertiliser along with Bobby Robson and Terry Venables, both former England managers, with semi-final defeats to the Germans as emotional scars, they will present a formidable challenge if they can get the style right.

perts to dispense their wisdom and twirling his moustache instead. Only pasties?

heavy with players as their experts Cynics might point out that having and, secondly, that Des himself has ex-Chelsea manager Gullit and ex- been giving hints of turning into a bit of a "media tart" with his the-

and his appearance in a recent play.

Des has already promised that, in keeping with football's upward profile, be will be brushing up his French in preparation. But what if he gets stuck into the pastis in Style is unlikely to be a problem Paris and goes completely native, for the BBC, given that their an- smoothing at the camera and leavchorman Des Lynam has come to re- ing a Gauloise dangling in the cordefine the very word. You suspect ner of his mouth? There is no that Des could probably do the en- obvious replacement for him_unless wick has nevertheless gone for a front tire tournament without speaking, of course? Could there yet be a role row of high-profile managerial ex- simply raising an eyebrow or for the man who got stuck into the

England's leadership: The national coach's indecision makes a mockery of optimism possible a few months ago

Folly of Hoddle's muddled thinking

LAST autumn, when Manchester United demolished Juventus in the first leg of their Champions' League tie at Old Trafford, it seemed reasonable to believe not only that United could revisit the glory of their European past but that this brashly gifted young team could provide for England the foundation of a serious World Cup challenge.

Juventus were a classy side, experienced, with outstanding players Del Piero, Zidane, Deschamps, Di Livio. Yet even with the distinct advantage of an early goal, Marcello Lippi's team could not live with United over the 90 minutes. Even a sceptic about the English game, impervious to Sky's Premiership hype, could not fail to be impressed.

It seemed to me that night that a turning point had been reached. For United, and England. United prevailed by virtue of a classic English compound of skill, aggression and willpower, commonly known as guts. And most of the heroes were English.

David Beckham, Nicky Butt, Gary Neville, Teddy Sheringham, Andy Cole, Paul Scholes: convinced of their own ability; arrogantly dismissive of their opponents in the end; the ideal blend of youth and experience. This, one imagined, was how the legendary Busby Babes had been at their glorious best. How fortunate for Glenn Hoddle that so many of them were English.

That thought recurred when United travelled to Stamford Bridge in January to play Chelsea in the FA Cup. Like Juventus, Chelsea possessed a galaxy of foreign stars: Zola, Di Matteo, Vialli, Leboeuf, Petrescu. Like Juventus, the foreigners were blown away by a startling exhibition of controlled aggression. After taking a 5-0 lead United took their foot off the pedal. Something definitive had, however, been established about the difference between the new English footballer and his mercenary European counterpart.

United performances, the English identity and character of the assassins (Phil Neville, playing in midfield, scored the opening goal at The Bridge) and considered that Glenn Hoddle could supplement to the cause players such as Alan Shearer, David Seaman, Tony Adams, Robbie Fowler, David Batty, Paul Ince and Ian Wright, it did not require a leap of the imagination to see England mounting a real challenge at this summer's festival of football in

Against the background outlined above, Paul Gascoigne is an irrelevance. Ageing, injury-prone, a seriously unfit curiosity, managing – just about – to get by in the Scottish Premier League. Gazza would hardly have lasted 20 minutes in either of the aforementioned two games. He was yesterday, Euro '96, and there, in truth, only hriefly. Yet, astonish-



DUNPHY ingly, Gazza the talisman has

remained an English obsession. England's World Cup fate was dependent, in the eyes of many who should know better, on some metamorphosis that would transform the slob into a World Cup athlete.

The England coach appears to have believed in the Gazza myth as enthusiastically as anybody. Without Gazza England would lack a creative dimension, it was claimed. Hoddle tacitly consented to this nonsense. And nonsense it is. When Manchester United thrashed Juventus, and even more severely Chelsea, was there any discernible absence of creativity? Answer that question correctly...and you begin to understand the folly of so much that passes for critical analysis of the English game; so much of which appears to permeate the thinking also, sadly, of Glenn Hoddle.

Flagellation is universally known as the English vice; in footballrelated matters this vice is taken to extremes. Understood and harnessed, the natural English virtues deployed by Manchester United against Juventus and Chelsea are priceless. Power, aggression, the wit of Beckham and Scholes allied to the relentless preying of Cole and Butt, Sheringham's elusive precision, the unshakeable composure of the Neville brothers - such qualities When on reflection on those two are, when blended, unique to the English.

Discovering its true identity and celebrating it is a task that has proved beyond English football men. Significantly, it was Sir Alf Ramsey who last accomplished the relatively simple task of casting the English footballer in his proper role. With apologies to none, especially his domestic critics, Ramsey won the

man, to whom Alex Ferguson, the United manager, bears more than passing resemblance, who would have loved, and nurtured, the attitude of United's hrash young men. Ramsey would have spotted what Hoddle appears to have missed: the virtue of Englishness and the pointlessness of persisting with Gazza.

But then Ramsey was a man. Hoddle is merely a prefect: tolerant, reasonable, presentable, ruling in that he may not be alone. But



Ramsey was a practical football nothing in-or out-not even the possibility that a faith healer can make

a difference. Which is, basically, a load of bollocks. Hoddle the player was an enigma. Hoddle the coach is similarly obtuse, never more so than in recent weeks when his indecision has made a mockery of the optimism about England's chances that was possihle a few months ago.

Hoddle clearly believed in Gazza;

surely only he can believe that England can travel to France with one left-sided player, two full-backs, without Nicky Butt and Phil Neville. and hope to survive international football's ultimate test. Asked at the Gazza press conference who might cover at left-back should Graeme Le Saux be injured (or more likely suspended), Hoddle mumbled something about Darren Anderton filling in at left-wing back. That was truly sensational news. Phil Neville was

back in Manchester by then and rived. It is his convictions, whatevly outlined.

England have played two really serious matches since Hoddle took charge: Italy home and away in World Cup qualifiers. The loss at Wembley was redeemed by the draw in Rome, achieved, it must be said, against a nervously impotent Italian side. What awaits in France is a chal-Hoddle, the moment of truth has ar- derton to Phil Neville or Nigel Win-

England's World Cup destiny clear- er they are, that are about to be put to the test. Defeat, especially if it is abject, will doubtless raise a tabloid storm directed mainly, one suspects. at the players. Folly compounded by folly. For this buck should properly

stop with Hoddle, The Tinkerer. Hankering after players he does not possess in order to execute a system - 3-5-2 - that is wrong for the lenge of a different order. For Glenn men at his disposal. Preferring An-

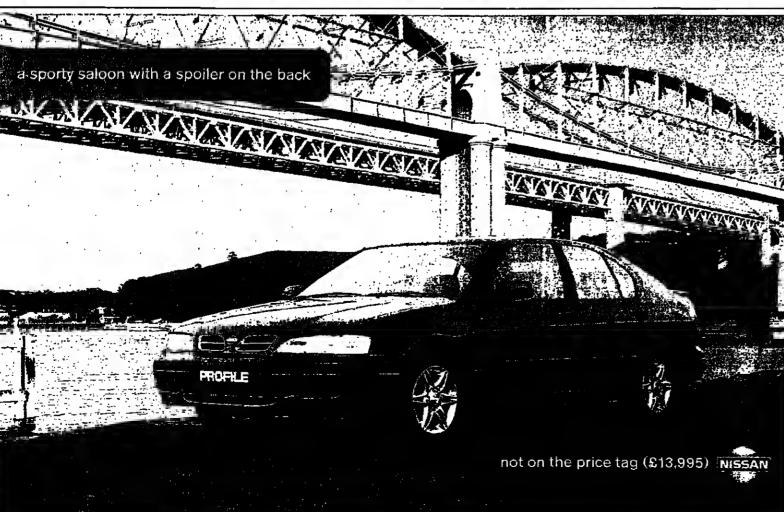
terburn, opting for shadow in place of substance So recently experimenting with

Photograph: Allsport

Steve McManaman at right-wing back and, more hizarrely, Jamie Redknapp as sweeper, Hoddle the coach reminds one of nothing so much as Hoddle the player: a man convinced of his own virtue but sadly vulnerable to robust reality. In France, as once at Anfield, there will he no protection for the prefect. In



Prefect tense: Hoddle the coach recalls Hoddle the player: a man convinced of his own virtue but sadly vulnerable to robust reality



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France alarmed by Zidane ankle injury

day training session in Finland yesterday with doubts concerning the fitness of their playmaker Zinedine Zidane. Since a tiring 1-0 win over

Finland last Friday, Zidane has been struggling with an in-jured ankle. Although he is expected to return to training today the French team doctor, Jean-Marcel Ferret, said: "It is preoccupying because there is always that fear that he will not be able to play the first match." If Zidane does not recover

his place against South Africa in Marseilles on Friday will most likely be taken by Robert Pires, the Metz midfielder.

Germany suffered injury and illness worries involving two players yesterday, less than 24 hours after arriving in France. The wing-back Christian Ziege was unable to train because of a fever along with the defensive midfielder Thomas Helmer, who has a thigh problem.

The Germans' opening match is six days away - they face the United States in Paris on 15 June – but the problems gave coach Berti Vogts a sobering reminder of his in-

FRANCE returned from a four- jury-hit Euro 96 campaign when he struggled to field a team for the final and had to ask special permission to fly in

another player. With the average age of the German squad nearly 30 - one of the oldest in the finals - Vogts knows that veteran players can take longer to recover from injuries. Heimer is 33.

"It's a real shame for Helmer because he has been mentally in good form and feeling positive," Vogts said. "I hope he is going to get back soon. I hope he will be able to do some light training. On Ziege, we will leave it to the doctors to decide when he can return.

Italy, who open against Chile in Bordeaux on Thursday, deferred a decision on whether to send the defender Moreno Torricelli home after the team doctor said his injured right foot may heal quickly.

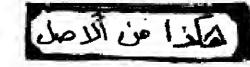
"He is suffering from a deep bone bruise which causes him severe pain," Dr Andrea Ferretti said. "However, it should heal quickly and the player should resume training soon. The next two days will be decisive."

striker Filippo Inzaghi is pushing hard for a place in the first team but says he will happily play the role of "super-sub" if required.

A twisted left knee forced Michael Laudrup to miss training with Denmark yesterday. The Danish coach, Bo Johansson, already troubled by a knock suffered by the Manchester United goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel, played down the injury as the 33-year-old. Ajax midfielder worked out gently with several coaching

"He's not practising today but it shouldn't be a problem." Johansson said. Laudrup is the sole survivor of Denmark's only previous World Cup finals appearance in 1986.

Fernand Sastre, the man responsible for bringing the World Cup finals to France, has been admitted to a Paris hospital suffering from lung cancer Sastre, the chairman of the French Football Federation from 1972 to 1984, is the co-president of the World Cup organising committee with Michel



Johansson blames FA in defeat

BY GLENN MOORE in Paris

LENNART JOHANSSON, the most powerful man in European football, last night delivered a savage attack on the Football Association after he suffered a crushing defeat in the election for the presidency of Fifa, the world game's governing body.

Johansson, who appeared to be a certain winner a month ago, lost to Sepp Blatter, the Swiss general secretary of Fifa, in a tense election in a conference hall here.

The result is a boost for the FA's attempt to host the 2006 World Cup but it has come at the potentially heavy cost of alienating Johansson. The Swede remains president of Uefa, the European governing body, and a member of the 24-member Fifa

Dons' Dublin move .blocked

BY GLENN MOORE

SAM HAMMAN'S threat to move Wimbledon to Dublin was neutered yesterday when Fifa, the world's governing body, barred clubs from playing in leagues outside their own country unless both national football associations were in favour. The ruling was prompted by the FA of Ireland's opposition to the proposed moves by both Wimbledon and Clydebank to the Irish capital Hamman, who has been in dispute with Merton Coincil over the club's long-term iome ever since it left Plough Lane to share Selhurst Park, will now have to find a solution within England.

. In another debate at the Fifa Congress in Paris England's 2006 World Cup bid was further strengthened when a Dutch proposal that countries within the same federation - such as England and Germany should not mount simultaneous bids to host the World Cup was rejected.

Meanwhile, one of the people largely responsible for organising this month's tournament in Paris, Michel Platin, has said that French authorities have forned that that on the World Cup and are not pro-

well as being Sepp Blatter's running mate in the Fifa presidential election. said. France has done what it had to do, but nothing more," he said in an

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mer national coach and was also argnably their best player, criticised what he sees as a loissez-faire attitude in general in France. "Not everybody feels concerned by this event. For example the Culture Ministry doesn't give a damn. We have no links with them," he said. "So in many areas nothing has been planned."

Preparations at many of the 10 venues depended solely "on the personality of the [local] mayor," he stated. But Platini was more confident about the hosts chances of winning the World Cup and said that 10 teams were in the running. "I think land expecting – or at least hoping France can," he predicted. "Never – that you can fill the gap left by the has a World Cup been so open. Ten teams stand a chance of winning."

In the interview, Platini also defended the organisers' ticketing policy, which the European Commission said discriminated against foreign fans by making only one third of the 2.5m tickets available outside France. "The debate was over the last 180,000 tickets for the retail market." Platini said. "The European Commission wanted us to sell them to everybody but French people. I thought it was a bit too much and we did what we had planned. You have to defend those who pay their income tax in France and who allow stadi-

ums to be built or renovated. When the European Commission donates money for stadiums, maybe we will be ready to discuss with them. It's a personal point of view. You have to be a bit of diplomat in such moments. I'm not really that."

executive which will decide the venue for 2006.

Johansson, who is firmly behind the German campaign, lost by 111 votes to 80, a much larger verdict than had been expected. He felt the FA's decision, on Friday, to back Blatter publicly had been infinential and specifically picked them out in a bitter post-election address.

"I am very surprised at the scale of the defeat," he said. "I expected to get 100 votes. I didn't guess at them, I had been told I would get them. It is difficult for me to underthey are not. You can speculate

Before the election, Johansson had alluded to envelopes of money being passed around but it is not

publicly backed South Africa's candidacy hut if they fail to produce a viable bid, which seems increasingly likely, he is expected to prefer Eng-

land to Germany. "We feel he will ensure an open and fair process and see the best bid succeeds," said Jo Given of the stand why the FA of England were behind me a fortnight ago and now of mind she said: "We have said nothing in the last fortnight to suggest
we would back him. About the time
Yesterday, after an attempt to
make the ballot open was denied, his ing in the last fortnight to suggest Blatter announced be was standing [April], Johansson, who we had ex- he failed to secure the two-thirds mapected to be neutral about 2006 if

had been bribed financially - one of many's bid. In the light of a second the world's richest football associa- candidate, and Johansson's decision, tions, England have no need of a we said we would review our posibung. The FA is, however, in need of tion. On Friday we decided that, influence and Blatter's election is while we did not doubt Johansson's seen as favourable to 2006. He has ability to lead Europe, we felt Blatter was the best person for the whole world of football. He is dynamic and charismatic."

> Not everybody would describe Blatter, a 62-year-old career administrator with a background in ice hockey and watch-making, as dynamic but he does have charisma. as he showed in making the World Cup draw last December

victory was never in doubt. Although jority required on the first ballot.

ond was taken.

Afterwards it was pure theatre. Blatter was given a massive spray of flowers and his mentor, the 82year-old outgoing president João Havelange, was made an honorary life president. The Brazilian, in ower for 24 years, wiped a tear from his eye and then, having seen the succession secured, paid a glowing tribute to Johansson as "a leader and a friend". Since the pair have been in acrimonious dispute for four years, this brought peals of mirth from the watching media.

Johansson initially kept his cool, hut then he was faced with the ordeal of a press conference. Suddenly he looked every one of his 68 years. He had spent more than three years

thought he was suggesting England elected, said he would support Ger- Johansson, shocked by his crum- and an estimated £500,000 on his bling vote, capitulated before a sec- campaign and it had ended in humiliation.

Asked if he would stand again he replied: "No, I amn too old. Never again." As his composure went he attacked the FA, ackling: "I was the one who, almost alone, had sympathy for them after H'eysel. I was the one who proposed they should host Euro 96. I had excellent relations with Sir Bert Millich ip (the former FA chairman]. I am saurprised."

Then Blatter appeared and Johansson was asked to wait and shake hands for the photographers. Graciously he agreed but, as Blatter's entrance became triumphal, he muttered into the microphone, "Mr Sepp Blatter, I'm hungi y."

Then, the pictures taken, this bear of a man left the stage and Blat-



Johansson: Shocked by poll

ter, half a foot shorter but far more dapper, took the limelight. The showman's instinct took over as he reached out for the World Cup trophy itself, which had been sitting nearby, and put it next to him. The first winner - and whatever happens in the next five weeks, few victories will be as complete or as far-reach-



Paul Scholes (centre), flanked by England colleagues Alan Shearer (left) and David Beckham, loosens the limbs at Bisham Abbey yesterday

Viding enough support. Platini, the co-president of the World Cup organising committee, as well as being Seep Blatter's running. Well as being Seep Blatter's running.

PAUL SCHOLES could be heading for Iter was with a French newspaper a disastrous World Cup campaign.

The man who was France's for Distastrous, that is, in terms of his Distastrous, that is, in terms of his preferred image.

While his Manchester United contemporaries, David Beckham and Ryan Giggs, command the attention with their exciting activities both on and off the pitch, this 23vear-old is more than happy to play a quieter role.

"I'm just shy," he said yesterday, with a convincingly shy smile. "I

don't like being in the limelight." Well now, Paul, you could have a bit of a problem there, because you are about to take part in the world's biggest sporting event with all Englately departed Paul Gascoigne.

England's coach, Glenn Hoddle, has talked about the young ManGlenn Hoddle's 'tough little nut' is ready to crack the England role left vacant by his idol. Mike Rowbottom reports

this week the United manager, Alex Ferguson, described him as the most creative player in the England

Scholes' reaction, sensibly, is to draw confidence from such plaudits rather than shrink under the pressure of expectation. He is a sensible young man who has spent his money so far on the most sensible thing anyone can - a house. He has also invested in transport, in the

chester United midfielder in glow- form of a Cherokee Jeep. And he has ing terms, referring to him as a po-tential jewel in the crown. And only "I don't think it matters what you

are like off the field as long as you are good on it," he said. As he himself acknowledges, Scholes changes when he gets on to the pitch, becoming a voluble, volatile character. However, his emotions are still a world away from those of Gascoigne, whose exclusion from the final England squad came as a surprise to the United man.

Yet Scholes was quick to point out that six players had been cut from the squad on that day, and he felt the quasi-practical rather than racy

loss more keenly than some as two of them were his club colleagues Phil Neville and Nicky Butt. The latter was to have been his room-mate in France, "It was impossible to feel pleased with yourself with those two being left out," he said. "It was one of the worst days I can remember. Seeing them walking away - it was

Asked what his own aims were for the forthcoming tournament, he was conservative. "I just want to play," he said. "I'll take it from

Hoddle, however, was happy to speak more eloquently in his favour yesterday. "This lad's got everything as an offensive player," he said. "He can play in different positions and he'a going to get better and better. His eod product is probably better than any of the youngsters at the

moment. He can score goals, h is can make them, he tracks back, he gets his foot in. He's a tough 1 tile

"And he's got the temperamer, it he just gets on with his work. I think this year when he began to suffer sometimes because he does that he?'s not looked upon as a future superstar. He does all his talking on the football pitch.

"If he becomes a superstar, it will only be for what he's done on the: pitch. Which isn't a bad way of doing

Hoddle's comment seemed to contain an unspoken comparison with the man whose role Scholes may, in part, take over

Coincidentally, Gascoigne was one of Scholes' idols when he was young. "The first big memory I have of him is watching the 1990 World Cup," Scholes said. "I love the way

Fans face 'instant' fines

he plays, the way he beats people. It's sheer entertainment."

Scholes' ability to provide his own version of World Cup entertainment was put in doubt earlier with a knee problem. He reached the point when an operation was being considered - but then, thankfully, the knee responded to a couple of weeks

He retains one other difficulty, namely the asthma which will require him to take a number of inhalers to France. They are working well for me at the moment," he said, adding that the team doctor had told him there would be no problem with him playing a sequence of

matches in close proximity. Now that Gazza has gone, that means a more likely prospect. It is

Small beer for Spain

Cup coach, said yesterday that smoking and drinking could co-exist with football. "Smoking, in moderation, yes. And drinking in moderation too," be said when asked whether professional athletes could still get away with it in the modern age.

Moderation and social responsibility were the key, he said, and added that the fact that England's Paul Gascoigne and Teddy Sheringham had been seen smoking need not necessarily mean that they were unable to play football at

JAVIER CLEMENTE, Spain's World the highest level. "There's no problem, and besides Gascoigne and Sheringham are remarkable professionals on the field," he said.

Nwankwo Kanu of Nigeria sat out his side's first full squad practice in France yesterday with what was called a minor ankle injury. Kanu, 21, who led Nigeria to the gold medal at the Atlanta Olympics, was reported to have met one of the team doctors and had his ankle iced. The young player has been beset by a series of six months, hampering his come string injury in April.

back from the heart valve surgery he underwent in 1996.

The Arsenal manager, Arsene Wenger, said yesterday that his Dutch striker Dennis Bergkamp may have a long wait to start his World Cup. "I think he may miss more than just the first two games," Wenger said. "The fact that he hasn't played since our game against Derby will make the World Cup very difficult for him." Bergkamp missed Arsenal's run-in to the prelingering leg injuries over the past miership title after suffering a ham-

BY JOHN LICHFIELD

in Paris

BRITISH fans who misbehave during the World Cup were reminded yesterday that they face almost instant fines, jail sentences or deportation. The British embassy in Paris said there had been unprecedented cooperation between the governments and police forces of the two countries to weed out possible trouble-makers. A senior British police officer would be present in the security control room of every England

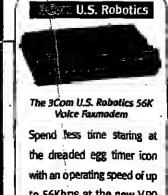
and Scotland game. Undercover British officers would mingle with the fans. Anyone arrested would appear within a few hours before special courts around the clock. The French government would provide free legal representation for accused fans. The British Ambassador, Sir Michael Jay, said the intention was to assure a peaceful and joyous "festival of football" for the majority of supporters. A certain amount of "exuberance" would be accepted but violent misbehaviour would be firmly punished. The em-

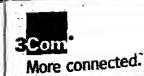
bassy also confirmed that member's of the Royal Family would be travelling to several England and Scotland first phase games. The Prince of Wales and Prince William would be in Lens for the England v Colornbia game on 26 June. The Duke of Edinburgh and Peter Phillips would watch Scotland against Brazil in the opening game tomorrow. The Duke of York will be in Marseilles for England against Tunisia a week today and Prince Edward will be in Bordeaux for Scotland and Norway on the same day.

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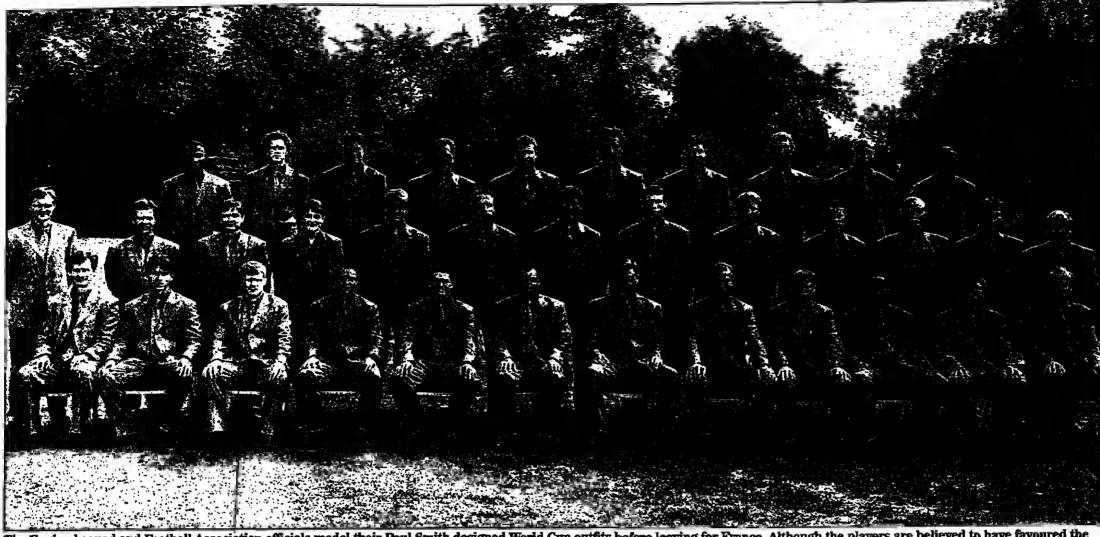
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HINGIS' PERFECT PARTNER P25 • HODDLE IN A MUDDLE P30





The England squad and Football Association officials model their Paul Smith designed World Cup outfits before leaving for France. Although the players are believed to have favoured the dark blue version of the suit, Glenn Hoddle made the final selection decision, opting for the lightweight beige fabric set off by a blue shirt and pale Italian silk tie. The team will also sport specially designed cufflinks bearing the England crest. For official relaxation, Smith has designed a casual team outfit of shirt, T-shirt and shorts.

Back row (from left): L Ferdinand, McLamphan, Anderton, Clemence, Flowers, Seaman, Martyn, Adams, R Ferdinand, Campbell, Middle: Lewin, Slattery, Byrne, Farrer, Beckham, Southgate, Shirt and Martyn, Adams, R Ferdinand, Campbell, Middle: Lewin, Slattery, Byrne, Farrer, Beckham, Southgate, Campbell, Middle: Lewin, Slattery, Byrne, Farrer, Beckham, Shatter, Byrne, Farrer, Beckham, Shatter, Byrne, Farrer, Beckham, Shatter, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Byrne, Farrer, Byrne, Sheringham, Keown, Merson, Lee, Crane, Snnnex, Smith. Bottom: Roeder, Neville, Scholes, Le Saux, Owen, Gorman, Hoddle, Shearer, Batty. Ince, Taylor, Davies Photograph: Action Images

Hoddle exudes confidence

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM



England's World Cup prospects yesterday as his squad made ready for today's flight out to France.

England's preparations for the tournament, which gets under way tomorrow, have been disrupted in the last week by the furore over indiscretions. And yesterday Hoddle had to announce that two of his squad of 22 have been unable to train with their colleagues at Bisham

and Graeme Le Saux, who has spent two days in bed with flu. However, the England coach was

Abbey - Sol Campbell, still recov-

ering from the effects of a dead leg.

afternoon with an informal game HODDLE against a Caen XI were better prespoke defiantly about pared than those of any other team - and confident with it.

> "I wouldn't be sitting here if I didn't think we could win it," he said. "And I think the players believe we

> He dealt dismissively with the suggestion that he has had to rally his troops following the unsettling events of recent days. "I have not answer.

He also settled the speculation over the question of whether he had decided upon his first-choice XL "I know my line-up, if they are all fit and able," he said.

Hoddle acknowledged that there was heightened expectation in the country. "I like that - and I think it's

World Cup. Probably tighter than ever. We can go with a lot of optimism. Whether we will win it remains to be seen - I think there are eight or nine countries that have the

quality to do that. "But it's an exciting time for the country; wherever we travel now, people are waiting for us. Just coming to the training ground they were outside their houses because they know the route we take. It gives us needed to say anything about it," he a buzz and there was a real excite-There was an edge to the play. I think the players just can't wait to get out

> That in itself has presented Hoddle with a problem of England's first match, against Tunisia, which does not come until five days after the opening game between Brazil and Scotland, "Because we don't play

adamant that the players who will [something] the players will enjoy as until the 15th," Hoddle said. "It's like fear. Plenty of respect for the new who also include Kenny Sanson start their final match practice this well. I think it's going to be a tight having a good horse three furlongs rules, plenty of respect for our op- and Ray Clemence. His own expeout. You have to hold it up your sleeve for a little while."

Asked to list the factors which give him optimism for the forthcoming competition, Hoddle mentioned the squad's mixture of youth and experience, their qualification from a difficult group and the experience of playing and winning in the Tournoi last year against Brazil, France and Italy. "It's not going to be the same as this tournament, obviously, but it was barometer," Hod-

On the negative side was the squad's lack of any player with World Cup experience, something he acknowledged as a "massive bonus" for other teams in England's firstround group.

"But I think the positives outweigh the negatives. So I don't think able to draw upon the World Cup

ponents. But no fear Because if, as a group of people, you get any fear, you are on a downward spiral."

and Ray Clemence. His own expe-

riences had prepared him for a va-

riety of fortunes in the forthcoming

competition. In 1982, after a dream

start, England went slowly down-

hill, whereas in 1986 they began dis-

astrously before picking up a momentum that none had antici-

"If we have a bad start we won't

The team's final preparations at

Bisham Abbey vesterday were

briefly interrupted by the arrival of

a large sausage in England colours.

The man inside the outfit - which was publicising a brand of salami -

But it may be of some concern to

While Hoddle did not go so far as to ascribe that emotion to either of his own World Cup campaigns as a player in 1982 and 1986, he did contrast attitudes in the past with those he was trying to engender now. "Sometimes in the past we might have gone in there with an attitude of Well, we're not quite sure how it's going to go.' It's a situation where ting things into neutral rather than going through the gears. I think we are more positive than that now on the back of getting to the Euro 96 semi-final and taking in the results we have achieved away from

Wembley since then." He hoped the players would be Hoddle the way he was allowed to we should be going there with any experience of the coaching staff,

Stewart's daring strategy denied

CRICKET

BY JOHN CULLEY at Edgbaston

ALEC STEWART is certain that the daring edge England have added to their game under his leadership can lead to triumph in the five-Tes series against South Africa.

He will have to wait to prove it. however, after Birmingham's weather forced the abandonment of the first Test as a draw, denying him the: chance to make a winning start as England captain.
England, 170 for 7 in their second

innings after 45 overs of positive, attacking cricket on Sunday evening had declared overnight, challen South Africa to score 290 on the last day, which disappointingly saw not a single ball.

"I felt we were in the box seat," Stewart said. "It was our intention to score as many runs as we could on Sunday and then give ourselves all day to bowl South Africa out. We felt we had played daring cricket to go for our shots as we did, but sometimes you have to be prepared to risk defeat in order to win.

"T thought we had a good lead. It was not impossible for us to take 10 wickets in a day and, to be honest, I did not think they would be able to score 290.

"We'll never know now how it would have turned out but having played well for four days we can go forward with confidence. If we continue in this form, there is no reason why we cannot be smiling at the end nf the fifth Test."

Stewart's predecessor, Michael Atherton, was named Man of the Match after his first-innings century and earned special praise from the new incumbent.

"He's been under a lot of pressure and showed his character here. Good players have bad patches and great players come out of them. I'd put him in the latter category.

"I don't know whether it was not having the responsibility as captain be pressing the panic button," Hod-dle said. "We have to keep an even that made it possible but I certainly never saw him play a reverse sweep as captain."

Stewart's counterpart, Hansie; Cronie, conceded that the substandard performance by his bowling spearhead had been the difference between the sides, although his criticism of Allan Donald and Shaun Pollock was low key:

was apprehended by security staff. "They were short of a good rhythm," he said, "but they are alcreep in on the blind side of England lowed a bad day or two." England's bold agenda, page 26

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD



ACROSS House one by a trick (4) Old venomous type vandalised a tree to annov! 10 A deficiency of com-

merce (5.3) 11 On return spots member having to set up tents (6) 12 Infrared device gets

13 They have experience as 2 retired workers (3,5)
15 Attractive point? (8,5)
18 Reportedly have defi-

cient understanding of

submarine? (8) 20 Fit worker keeps company with male (6)

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22 Monopolise market in grain supplied to sovereign (6) 24 Light I will turn on pit

25 Cán't cross a poor untouchable (10) quite right (13)
26 Read out letters of com- 14 Make brute remove

DOWN nurse endlessly annoyed 1 Travel to island to find a moderate worker(10) Book passage (6) Specially produced for Dee - Greek dish (8) Has power to under-

stand Flora? (6) Unsuitable for Professor of Peace Studies?

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Bit in newspaper is quite mature in parts

A piano professional changed into maxi having a figure that's not smell perhaps in sea

that's rough (10) 16 Writer on railway growth? (8) 17 Lords having no skill without one (8) 19 Pressure making lover

abandon motorway (6) 21 Cold colour which road should have? (6) 23 Old friend has a jewel

dark over his Everton future the BBC - without telling

BY ALAN NIXON

THE EVERTON chairman. Peter Johnson, risked turning the club into a laughing stock yesterday by leaving Howard Kendall in the dark about his managerial future.

Johnson was supposed to telephone Kendall or fly in on his private jet to tell him face to face that his third reign was over, but instead. Kendall was left angry and embarrassed to have to field questions about his future at Goodison on his own. Kendall has steadfastly refused to resign, despite widespread reports he is to be fired and yesterday he was defiantly stating that he would be in charge at the start of the season.

Johnson made up his mind to sack Kendall on Friday, a decision backed unanimously by his board. Plans have already been drawn up for a successor, generally believed to be Martin O'Neill.

But to add to the confusion, O'Neill has already gone to France on World Cup duty with Leicester City of his future plans. O'Neill may be Everton's first choice, but if he delays as badly as Johnson,

Johnson leaves Kendall in the

Everton will switch to an alternative target later this week. Kendall's backroom staff at Everton are also facing the sack, but his assistant, Adrian Heath, and coach, Viv Busby,

were also in the dark yesterday. Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, yesterday said he wanted to buy a versatile fullback and also a young striker. He also confirmed he was discussing a new contract which could keep him at Highbury until 2002, but said that if he were to leave before then, he might

2002 World Cup, which Japan will co-host with South Korea. Wenger said he is looking for players, but insisted that nobody - particularly Ian Wright

return to Japan ahead of the

- will leave Highbury this summer. "We will try to bring two to three players in. We need a full-back who can play on both sides because we have so many competitions in next season. And maybe a young striker." Earlier, Ajax confirmed they had turned down a £9m bid for Ronald de Boer from Arsenal, saying: "We will not let Ronald

Aston Villa have warned Mark Bosnich, Gary Charles, Mark Draper, Julian Joachim and Riccardo Scimeca that if they do not sign new contracts by 15 July, they wil be put on the

transfer list. Jock Brown, the Celtic general manager, has denied the claims of sacked assistant coach Murdo MacLeod that he interfered with team affairs and delayed bringing Paul Lambert to the club because he did not rate the player.

Brown accused MacLeod of criticising former manager Wim Jansen in his attempts to press his own claims for the job and claimed MacLeod tried to increase the terms of his own contract in October last year, just four months after arriving

TODAY AT FRANCE 98

FIFA'S ELECTION.

Sepp Blatter (right) is the new president of Fifa, world football's ruling body. In sterday's election to succeed Iolic Havelange Hlatter, a Swiss, beat Lemant Johansson, who then launched a bitter strack on the Football Association for supporting his opponent.

INJURY UPDATE

Edone, has been unable to train in the Paris Is expected to be start of the tournament have cost £5.2m past few days after suffering an ankie only 18C for tomorrow's alone to organise. The celebration injury. He may miss France's opening opening game. Thun-include processions and concerts around match against South Africa this Friday. derstorms are possible, the capital.



OUTLOOK

25-1 m 10-1 their price on four or more players being sent off in any one match in the tournament. Corals are offering 150-1 against either England or Scotand having three or more players sent off in any one of their games.

MARKET MOVES

bookmakers Corals have cut from

OPENING CELEBRATIONS France's influential playmaker, Zinedine The temperature in Today's festivities in Paris to celebrate the

go until 2004, whatever offers iries at Lords to goals in France '98, get its from around the world with one of the UK's most successful toylders with a 24 hour helpline

TUESDAYREVIEW

COMMENT • FEATURES • ARTS • LISTINGS • TELEVISION

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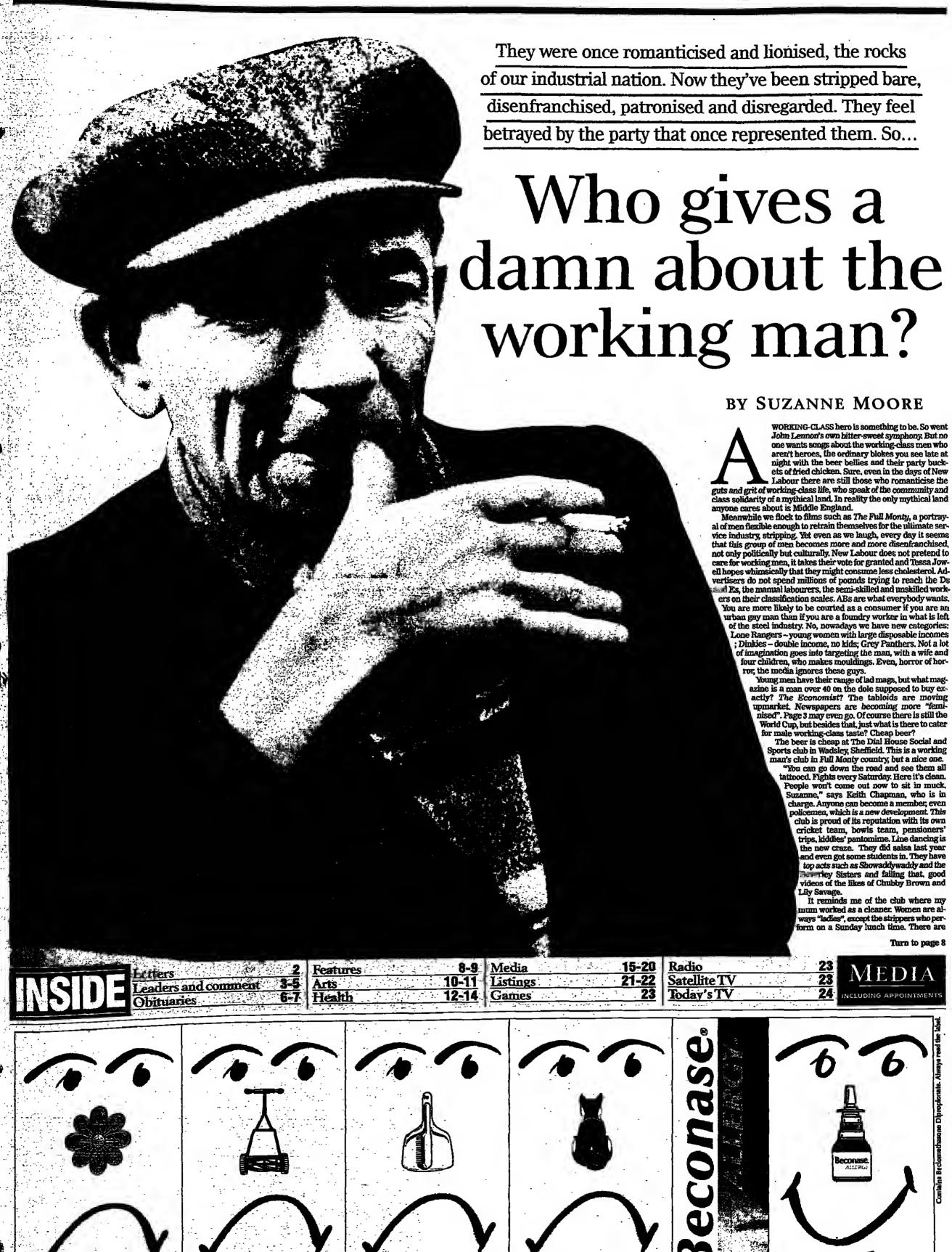
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Out of one closet, into the next one

I WAS at a dinner party the other night when the subject of polenta came up.

Take polenta example," said somebody. "As an example of what?" said somebody else.

"As an example of something that it is fashionable to like, which pops up in trendy places like the River Café, which is thought to be ever so ethnic and authentic, and yet which is absolutely horrible. It would seem impossible to turn maize into a atodgy, unappealing mess, but they have done it. The Italians! You might expect the Americans to make a mess of maize, but popcorn isn't half bad, until ground into cinema carpets ...

There was a silence.



MILES KINGTON

Normal, sexy, boy-interested girls play hockey, and look like a horse

"What's the point you're trying to make?" said someone, who spoke for all of us. "Just that because polenta is so very trendy, nobody dares say out loud that they don't like it. There must be other things that people don't like but daren't say so."

"Yes," said someone else. "Tye never dared say this before, but fresh pasta is not as nice as dried pasta."

There was a sharp intake of breath from someone who, I happened to know, was the owner of a fresh pasta maker. "Nick Hornby," said some-

one else. "What about him?" "It's not cool to admit Nick Hornby leaves you cold." "And does he?"

"Yes. And so does Inspector Morse." And suddenly everyone came out of the closet and

their unspoken, secret dislikes came tumbling out. "The Edinburgh Festival."

"Angus Deayton."

"Loose Ends." "Rick Stein." "Melvyn Bragg." "Stand-up comedy." "Sting."

'Stephen Fry.'

"Seinfeld." "Holidays in France." "Hold on," said someone "Do you think anyone would

really be shocked if someone didn't like Seinfeld?"
"I'd he shocked if anyone liked Jeremy Clarkson," said someone else.

"Ah!" said the original speaker "Maybe there's another list here. Things that people secretly like hut daren't say so ..

"Like what?" "Peter Mayle?" Everyone laughed, but we got the idea, and another closet opened.

"Linda McCartney." "Prawn cocktail." 'Madonna." "Sandwich spread." The Germans. "Oprah Winfrey." "Prince Charles." "UHT milk." 'The Dome.'

"John Maior." "Kenneth Branagh." "Kenneth Branagh?" said someone, puzzled. "Shouldn't he be on the other list?" "He used to be," said the

person who had put up Kenneth Branagh for membership, "but he moved on to the second list. It'a quite possible to be so trendy that you daren't admit to disliking it, hut then go so out of fashion - or become so popular - that trendies like us wouldn't be seen dead liking it."

"Oh God," said somebody else, "Is this a third list? A list of things that have moved from one list to another?"

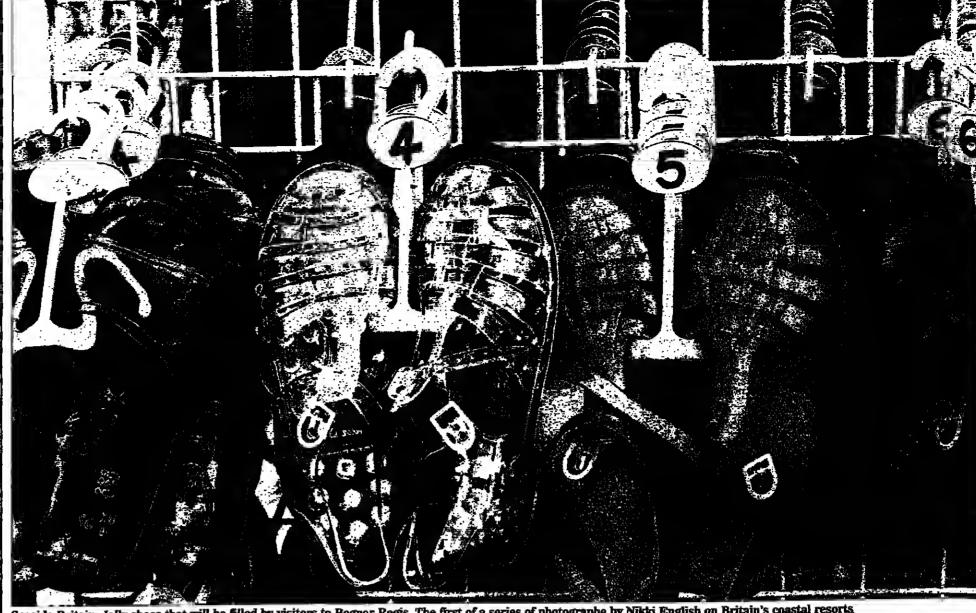
"I think you're being unfair to the Germans," said someone else. "I can think of one good thing they've done. When there were German prisoners of war in Italy in the Great War, they encountered polenta for the first time and so disliked it that they named it 'the yellow peril'."

Someone turned to me and said I hadn't added to any list yet.

Tm still worried about polenta," I said. "Someone said that even the Americans hadn't turned maize into a nasty, soggy mess. But they have.

'What's it called?" someone asked.

"Cornflakes," I said.



Seaside Britain: Jelly shoes that will be filled by visitors to Bognor Regis. The first of a series of photographe by Nikki English on Britain's coastal resorts

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Struggling schools

Sir: No doubt the article "The school that rose again from the ashes" (4 June) was supposed to be upbeat, but I found it depressing.

A badly failing school is given a tough, energetic, imaginative head, a highly motivated, mainly new teaching staff, a lick of paint and a few rolls of carpet and, hey presto - a dramatically improved school. The message is simple, and for the Government very pleasing. Failing schools are created by poor teachers. Replace a weak staff by a good one and a failing school succeeds. Nothing to trouble the Chancellor here.

One factor was almost hidden at the foot of the third column: "About 50 children were expelled or suspended during that summer term."

Every teacher in an inner-city school has to face large numbers of difficult pupils, but most can cope with them. What makes the job impossible even for the most inspired teacher is the small number of severely disturbed pupils who are virtually beyond control. Just one such child can wreck a lesson.

In even in the most difficult schools, most teachers would agree that if they could exclude just a couple of dozen such pupils they could transform the place. Sadly, even a handful is virtually impossible. A teacher can be sworn at or

assaulted by a pupil only to have to

teach the child a few days later. However, find your school under the spotlight as a failing school and suddenly you can throw out 50 of them. Meanwhile those schools which can just about cope are expected to slog on without relief. No articles praising their achievements, just the reward of finding themselves near the bottom of the league tables as they try to push a declining pool of able pupils through GCSEs whilst trying to keep the lid on the nation's unteachables Dr STEPHEN SHAW

Sir: Your report and leading article on class sizes (4 June) seem to be the victims of spin. Let me inject some facts into your suggestion that

Newthorpe, Nottinghamshire

the class size pledge won't work. First, our very clear pledge was to deliver a maximum class size of 30 for every five-, six- and seven-yearold by 2002 by phasing out the Assisted Places Scheme. Already we have passed the legislation to phase out assisted places; we have allocated £22m from Assisted Places from this September to 65 LEAs who have developed clear proposals to provide 1,500 extra teachers and smaller classes for 100,000 pupils.

Second, we have also provided £40m which will be allocated to help to provide around 600 extra classrooms over the next year to allow parental choice of school to be met. Third, we have given clear guidance to LEAs and are taking the necessary legislation on class sizes through Parliament at present.

Fourth, our infant class-size pledge is one of a number of important initiatives we are taking to improve primary school standards – and links with our commitment to improve literacy and numeracy teaching and achievement

All of this is on schedule - and the schedule was well publicised before the election. We will deliver our pledge ahead of schedule by September 2001. Naturally there will be those who will wish to lobby us and put their own spin on matters. But the facts are different and the evidence locally is that the pledge can and will be delivered in a way which benefits pupils, parents and

teachers. STEPHEN BYERS Minister of State Department for Education and Employment London SW1

Sir: As a retired primary school headmaster I am bemused by the anxious concern about "mixed age" teaching (leading article, 4 June). Since when has birth control been so honed as to provide children in neatly packaged age groups to fit each school's individual requirements? In any case a child's reading age is more important in the planning of work than chronological age.

The priority should be for reduction of class sizes. Then perhaps as much emphasis could be placed on class organisation as on curriculum content. W GLYN JONES **Bolton**, Greater Manchester

Answers for Africa

Sir: As one who spent many years in African countries, I agree with Suzanne Moore ("Clare Short is Right", 5 June) that these places are far from being all donm and gloom, but also that humanitarian aid, while totally laudable, provides no longterm solution to the problems that exist. The problem is really the one that the Government has recognised at home: welfare or work. For "welfare" read "charity", for "work"

read "sustainable development". But neither is developmental aid necessarily the answer. Billions upon hillions have been poured into Africa during the last thirty-odd years and the continent is in a worse atate now than it was at the start. Neither is the answer to be found in a blanket moratorium on debts which, in places such as Sudan, would merely enable the ruling factions to spend more money on arms. People in the West are frequently asked to use their generosity to save people from the incompetence or brutality of their own governments, while our

heir removal Such aid as is given should be channelled into sustainable development. This means anything other than large-scale, prestigious, technology-dependent projects in aces where neither the infrastructure nor the manpower exists to sustain them and which are ripe for exploitation by the ruthless parasites who prey on the misery of the poor. Developmental aid has all too often been a means of guaranteeing markets for the donor

governments do little to bring rogue

vernments to heel or to assist in

If Robin Cook'a ethical foreign policy is to mean anything, Britain

country while swelling the bank

accounts of the ruling classes.

must take the lead in getting the world to adopt the following agenda: 1. "Name and shame" countries who abuse civil rights or conduct civil

2. Ban the sale of arms to all listed countries with ruinous penalties (such as withdrawal of trading licences) on companies who violate the ban_

3. Declare debts interest-free or nonrepayable only for those Third World countries who satisfy the Geneva Convention on Human Rights, retaining the option of renewing the interest and repayments on all countries who

4. In countries which conform to the accepted standards, begin local, small-scale projects, administered by aid agencies, on a low-interest loan basis providing infrastructure (roads, vehicles, irrigation, medical care, literacy programmes), technology and vocational training. To begin with these projects will be little more than an extension of subsistence agriculture. The initial aim should be to grow more food and to plan in such a way that the questions of starvation and malnntrition never again arise for the small number of people dependent on

Only if we use the power of the developed world to ensure that all the world's citizens live in an environment guaranteeing basic human rights can we ensure that minimum standards of material prosperity exist everywhere. While charity provides the only solution situations such as the one in southern Sudan will be recurring nightmares.

STUART RUSSELL Poulton, Gloucestershire

Blair or Machiavelli

Sir: Machiavelli would have given somewhat better advice to the Prime Minister and Chancellor than Donald Macintyre, who dismisse the effect of high interest rates on British industry and seems more concerned with the success of government tactics than the ultimate result of their reliance on interest rates to govern both the level of demand and the level of the

pound (Comment, 5 June). Machiavelli was, above all a realist. He would surely point out that this small country which lived on its wits had to sell more than it bought; thet, for that, it depended on its industry. So if a government crippled its industry in its first year of office by a high pound which made it uncompetitive and high interest rates which undermined its capacity to invest in new products, neither industry nor the economy would be likely to recover in time for the next

He might go on to suggest that the point at which to change from the absurd reliance on interest rates alone to govern both domestic demand and the exchange rate was four years before the next election when the Government's huge majority would be judged entirely on its performance and not on excuses or promises.

He would agree that the Government had made some unfortunate electoral commitments not to use taxation as a regulator of demand and not to seek the help of its trading partners in supporting the currency at a fixed but competitive rate.

So the peak of his political skill would have been to find new external conditions, unforeseeable at the election, which compelled government to act speedily, despite its previous commitments, and gave it the solid economic success needed to win the next election. Sir FRED CATHERWOOD Cambridge

Second homes

Sir: No one group forces another out of a community in this country, rather what we see in the countryside is merely an extension of the mobility that started several hundred years ago.

From the countryside to industrial areas, pursuing prosperity to the cities, the population has shifted. When the cities became full and transport links allowed, the suburbs grew; and subsequently some city workers felt that the time spent commuting was well spent in order to move back to the countryside.

The experiences of Mr Collins in the Lake District (letter, 6 June) should be treated seriously, but not by punitive taxation of second homes, which would adversely affect those, like me, who do not drive Mercedes to "chocolate box" suburban houses, but have decided to remove their vehicles from the commuter routes and live close to a place of work during the week, whilst maintaining family homes and links

with the community elsewhere. This is not a cheap option, but beneficial to the environment and to productive and healthy use of time, and paying only one-and-a-half times the council tax of others seems a reasonable compromise, but hardly

The imposition of 200 per cent taxation will not dissuade the "chocolate box" hunters and provide . houses for "the locals" - only employment prospects will do that. Rather, increased costs may persuade me, and many others, to add vehicles to the already congested and polluted commuter RICHARD J CROWE

London W3 and Thame, Oxfordshire

Gazza's tears

Sir: Any working man or woman is bound to feel a sense of injustice (or even jealousy) at the phenon amounts of money most Premiership players earn these days. None more so than Ken Jones, who despises tears in the eyes of these superstars ("Sport and crying don't mix", 4 June).

Mr Jones seems to feel the sting all the more sharply because be comes from a family of footballing folk who experienced wage restrictions in their playing days. As a regular reader of The Independent I am becoming increasingly aware of Mr Jones's bitterness.

The tears of a Gazza have the

capacity to move people not because they are justified but because they are so fundamentally sincere. The man failed and is being punished for not taking care of his body. Anyone on his wages should know better, but that is hardly the point. Gazza is a folk hero, an icon of popular success. The fact that he is incapable of controlling his self-destructive urges only makes him the more human, the more understandable to a generation of success-hungry people who dare not confemplate the possibility of failure. MARC FRANCIS Brussels

Queer Warhol

Sir: I must protest against the puritan libes of Tom Lubbock about Warhol in his review of the current show at the Barbican (2 June).

Warhol encapsulates something of immense historical importance about American capitalist culture in the late 20th century. In everything he did (films, paintings, magazines, books, collectibles) be expressed his fascination with capitalist commodity fetishism with great wit and camp good humour, as this hugely enjoyable show demonstrates.

The artist and the gay man cannot and should not be separated. They were one. For many of "us" Warhol is an exemplary queer artist. ROGER COOK Lecturer in Fine Art The University of Reading

IN BRIEF

It is disingenuous of Professor Akbar Ahmed (letters, 4 June) to dismiss the dangers of the Pakistani bomb as yet another example of "Islamophobia". Pakistan's nuclear weapons are more dangerous because they unlike those of India, are controlled not by the civilian government, but by the army: an army itching to avenge its defeat at the hands of the Indians during the Bangladesh war of 1971. PRAKASH SHAHI London NW7

Tragic though it was, the 1988 Clapham crash is far from being Britain's worst rail disaster (report, 4 June). About 227 died in the 1915 Quintinshill collision and fire, and there have been eight further disasters with death tolls greater than that at Clapham, RUSSELLASH Lewes, East Susser

Consciousness may be difficult to define ("Does your pet have an inner life?" 8 June) but is comprehensible nonetheless. The difference between a malfunctioning washing machine and a sick dog is that, for most people, the former elicits irritation and the latter compassion. Anyone who denies that a dog has a consciousness is out of their mind. JAMES EARL Lecturer in Philosophy Richmond, the American International University in London

London W9 PS. for those interested in the

correlation between philosophers and pets. I am the proud owner of Sable, a black cocker spaniel.

THE REVIEW DAY BY DAY

MONDAY REVIEW

As well as our regular columnists, features and expanded comment pages, Network, our information technology section, moves to Monday.

TUESDAY REVIEW

An improved media section, with appointments, moves to Tuesday. Visual arts and and more health pages are also Tuesday regulars

WEDNESDAY REVIEW

Fashion, midweek money pages, in addition to finance and sectretarial sections (previously City+) will stay on Wednesday

THURSDAY REVIEW

Our education section will appear as a separate tabloid section. Improved and expanded film pages now move to Thursday

FRIDAY REVIEW

The achitecture and science pages now move to Friday. In addition, we will have a new law section and our music pages

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Mr Prescott: a minister on the right road

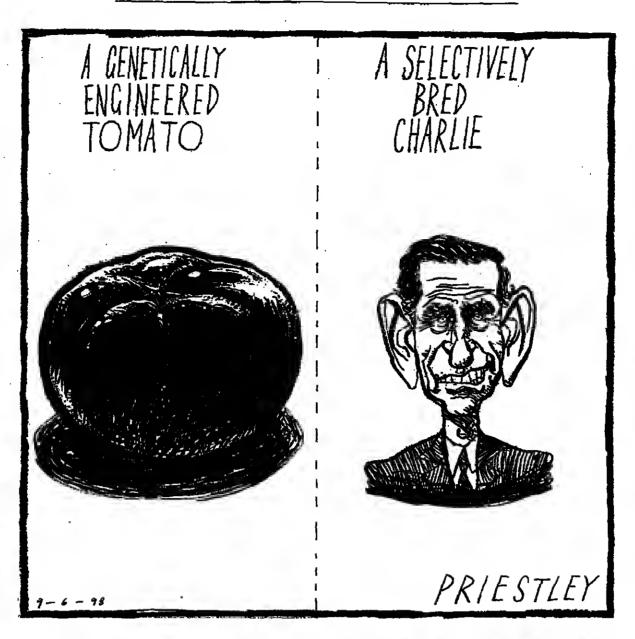
IF ONLY there was a magic wand waiting to be waved. At a stroke, all our transport problems would disappear. We would have reliable, affordable and comprehensive public transport. Traffic would flow. Road rage would disappear. We would all drive environmentally friendly cars. The sun would always shine, and ... but there is no magic wand. There is no "solution" to our transport problems, only a series of measures that can help alleviate one of this country's most intractable problems

The decision to delay the publication of the white paper en transport until the completion of the comprehensive spending review in July is a good one. A result of the newly minted love in between John Prescott and Gordon Brown, it means that when it is finally published it should be better able to answer the question: where's the beef? The decision that transport should join health and education as a spending priority for the next three years is welcome and shows that the Government realises that the transport infrastructure has knock-on effects well beyond the speed with which we can trav-

As our report today shows, the Government appears to have learnt the lesson from the hammering its first (leaked) proposals took, that progress in transport does not mean simply attacking the motorist. Rather it means helping to bring about a balance. Often motorists are portrayed as if they are some sort of alien species, whose interests are destined always to frustrate the more worthy objectives of the rest of us. But we are almost all motorists, and the point is not that there is a divide between motorists and the rest, but that transport policy should instead offer us an alternative between the car and public transport. There are very few of us who use only one form of transport.

The Government's approach of promoting a series of different measures rather than a grand sweeping corporate plan is sensible. The White Paper will propose, for instance, greater security for the car parks which make park-and-ride schemes possible and which are now often an open invitation to car thieves. Again, small-scale schemes, such as the cycle bridge built over a railway line in Leicester that enables hundreds of children to cycle to school in safety, are a tiny hut significant contribution towards cutting back on the congestion caused by the school run.

The plain fact is, however, that most worthwhile improvement - and certainly the necessary invest-



ment in public transport - costs money and takes time to have an effect. Congestion charges, increases in petrol duty, road charging and charges on parking at out-oftown supermarkets are all possibilities. But Mr Prescott should avoid the superficial attractiveness of hypothecating extra revenue towards extra transport spending. Why stop at transport? Why not defence? Or social security? If the case for extra spending is so compelling, then he should be confident enough to make it on its

More attractive is the idea of a motorists' charter, which would set out the rights and responsibilities of

those bodies such as the Highways Agency and the DVLA that look after our roads and the cars that travel on them. We all have horror stories of major road works which are concentrated on the rush hour while the site stays deserted on a Sunday evening. But the balance is again crucial. Local authorities tend towards a rigid application of rules and are often responsible for so-called traffic-calming measures which do little except incite road rage. In all these areas, the key point is to be flexible and to go with the flow.

These caveats aside, Mr Prescott's thoughts are on the right imes, and he deserves support.

Genetics and the Monarchy

FIRST ARCHITECTURE, now genetic engineering. Truly the Prince of Wales is a Renaissance man. He is, of course, perfectly right to observe that we need much more information about the effects - or lack of them - of genetically engineered food. But we have to wonder whether the Prince of Wales is really the

The monarchy is living in turbulent times. It has just about recovered from the knock it took in the aftermath of the Princess of Wales's death. But the very foundation of the monarchy - the hereditary principle - was set on the path towards abolition in the House of Lords yesterday. Prince Charles is an intelligent man, with a range of interesting opinions. He of all people should be able to see the danger of using his position - acquired by that same hereditary principle - to float controversial views. Tempting as it must be for him, he should keep quiet. The monarchy is, if it has any relevance to the world today, a symbol of the nation. As such, it must be above all controversy. It must indeed be difficult for the Prince to live with the knowledge that the one thing he must not do is share his views with us. But if he feels able to tell us today what he thinks about genetics, what is to stop him moving on to the homeless tomorrow, or fiscal policy the day after? He appears to see his role as being to initiate debate. He is wrong. When Emperor Akihito refused to apologise for Japanese war crimes many commentators sneered. But under the Japanese constitution he is quite clearly unable to say anything in the least political. Prince Charles should take a leaf out of his fellow royal's book.

The last laugh

ALMOST EVERY article ever written on the Internet has contained one common theme; as the information age takes over, so we will see the gradual disappearance of the book and the printed word. What delicious irony it is, therefore, that the only runaway commercial success on the Net is the American online book shop, Amazon.com - which proudly boasts that it can find any out-of-print title. How passé! Its success, and the news that W.H. Smith, purveyor of that recherché phenomenon, the book, has just bought Amazon's British challenger, Bookshop.co.uk, are no doubt explained by the more accurate description of the two sites' prefix, www, as "world-wide wait".

Memo to government: our enterprise culture is thriving

DO WE as a society a prove of is put of a larger group decide that entrepreneurs? I believe we do. But they could achieve a better perfor-I raise the question because over the mance if their business was indeweekend, I happened to read that pendent. Given their freedom, they called might be able to raise much-needed cabinet ministers are proposing to tell Britain's wealth creators that they are fresh capital that their parent comnot matching up to their American counterparts - in other words, that we don't have much of an enterprise

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N. A. Britania

Service School Services

But whether we do or do not, nothing could be sillier than members of way of unpicking the unwise mergers the Government exhorting entrepreneurs to pull their socks up; they might as well tell the England football team is going on. to play better. I hope the story was er-

That Britain's enterprise culture compares poorly with the situation in the United States is expected to be shown by a study which will be launched on Thursday at a breakfast meeting to be held by Margaret Beckett. President of the Board of Trade, and Geoffrey Robinson, Paymaster

General I know the kind of figures that can be used to support this assertion. The amount of private capital put up for new businesses in the UK last year was just over fibn compared with nearly £26bn in the US. Plus, only 10 per cent of the British total went to high technology companies compared with 70 per cent across the Atlantic.

The other statistic which is often quoted is that the miserty £1bn also compares badly with the large amount of finance made available in this country by banks and investment institutions for management buy-outs, approaching £20bn annually.

pany had been unable to supply or provide better incentives for staff, or introduce improved working practices and so on.

Management buy-outs are really a of the past. To my mind, it is very welcome that a lot of such deconstruction

Not enough high tech start-ups? Perhaps not, but entrepreneurs tend to operate wherever they find attractive prospects. The list of the nation's top 100 entrepreneurs published in the latest issue of Enterprise magazine is

It shows that 10 of them made their fortunes in computers, nine in software, and six in mobile phones. Thus, one quarter of those listed have been ng in information technology which lies at the heart of the industrial revolution though which the world is passing. Their predecessors 175 years ago would have been de-

veloping steam power in all its forms. The entries on the current list are just what one would hope to find. And in software, by the way, British companies are greatly respected in the American market for their sheer inventiveness. When you go to see Microsoft or Intel, a British address on the visiting card is almost an advantage.

A discussion devoted to entrepre-Management buy-ours take place

Management buy-ours take place

day morning on the Scott Chisholm advanced the Japanese doctrine of £240m to invest; part of the money

when the directors of a company that neurs took place on Talk Radio on Fri-



ANDREAS WHITTAM SMITH

Nothing could be sillier than members of the Government exhorting entrepreneurs to pull their socks up

show in which I participated It was an excellent seminar on the subject. There you heard the authentic voices of entrepreneurs, as listeners called in to recount their experiences: "Somebody told me that if I bought a particular type of lorry, they would give me work for it," said one who went onto to make a success of a haulage business. A woman who is now running her own market research company said: "I was lucky, opportunity came along and I took it. Often people don't recognise opporamity until it's gone."

There were many different ideas of

gued that the crucial quality is getting people to go along with you - staff, suppliers, banks, shareholders. "Somehow to work the alchemy so that people want to support you, want to go with you - that is a precious attribute." Tim Waterstone's view was that the first four to five years "are always brutal".

Most new businesses begin in the proverbial back room or garage, and then skim along with funds either previously saved or provided by family and friends until they are solid enough to turn to conventional sources of finance. That is why they do not show up in the statistics for raising startup capital.

The original financing of The Independent in 1986 was an exception to this rule, because a national newspaper cannot begin in a tiny way and then grow. It has to be started full-out. But when called upon, the City insti-tutions did put by files. And a few years later their £1 shares were bought out for over £3 each. The system worked for the launch of The Independent and will continue to do so whenever an interesting proposition is put forward.

We do indeed have an enterprise culture, not least because, for 20 years, successive chancellors of the exchequer, beginning with Geoffrey Howe in Mrs Thatcher's first cabinet, have found ways of encouraging the entrepreneurs.

Last week, for instance, Gordon Brown announced the creation of what made a good entrepreneur. One three new venture capital funds with

kaizen or continuous improvement. comes from the European Union. In Tim Waterstone, the bookseller, ara £50m University Challenge Fund to provide scientists with "seed" capital.

This culture, too, is spreading A re-cent report for Demos, by Charles Leadbeater, argued that social entrepreneurs will be as important in the next decade as business entrepre-

In Mr Leadbeater's formulation, social entrepreneurs are like business entrepreneurs in the methods they use - they can make something from nothing, and create innovative forms of welfare, health care and housing which are both cheaper and more effective than the traditional services provided by government.

The final proof is surely that successful entrepreneurs are greatly admired.

Richard Branson's achievements in business are so highly regarded that people put forward his name to be president should the country become a muchlic or to be awar of London in the forthcoming elections. Similarly Anita Roddick is a role model for many Chris Evans is beginning to earn additional kudos for being an entrepreneur as well as a radio personality.

I say two things to government ministers. Look past the statistics and comparisons with other countries to what is really going on around you. You will not be disappointed.

Second, even if you accept my thesis that we have a healthy enterprise culture, do not relax. Adopt the notion of kaizen in government and engage upon a programme of continuously improving the help which the state can

OUOTE OF THE DAY

I don't want to get into a slanging match with the Treasury. I repeat what we have already said: This is not a tax protest. It's a business decision.' Bernard Docherty, spokesman, the Rolling Stones

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Between the idea/And the reality/Between the motion/And the act/Falls the Shadow. T.S. Eliot: The Hollow Men



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in the central region of Drenica, the Kosovo Liberation Army is unlikely to gain the necessary sympathy and support from the outside world, other than Albania, to defeat the Yugoslav People's Army.					
The West will intervene mil-	Postcode				
itarily only if there are many	Tel Date of birth 19				
more Drenica's, and by then it will be too late.	OU Hotline (24 hours) 0870 9000 301				

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WE CANNOT continue to indulge the Yugoslav president under the pretext that a negotiated settlement can only be obtained through him.

He must be threatened - politically, legally and with the military.

If Moscow continues to protect "the man of Belgrade", we should even consider withdrawing our financial help, of which Russia is so desirous.

In short, we Westerners must dare now to give ourselves a new Balkan objective: to have done with Milosevic.

Noel Malcolm: "Time' (US)

IT IS a virtual certainty that Kosovo will become independent from Serbia within the next 50 years. The only question is: how do we get from here.

on a prolonged interim phase, mains an eventual option.

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MONITOR THE NEWS OF THE WORLD

Today: the West's response to the Kosovo crisis

like the one agreed for Chechnya by General Alexander Lebed, may be possible, but only if the Albanians are as-A negotiated solution based sured that independence re-

With Western governments blithely telling them that even long-term independence is out of the question, the chances for "stability" in the Balkans are slender indeed.

Peter Lipman: Nando Times'

KOSOVO'S underground Albanian government, led by Ibrahim Rugova, has successfully advocated a non-violent response to Serbian repression blood feud was practised until recently. But his leadership has been passive and the Albanians'

patience has not been rewarded. In response, small groups of Albanians in the countryside have armed themselves.

and this in a region where the necessary sympathy and sup-

Army is unlikely to gain the port from the outside world other than Albania, to defeat the Yugoslav People's Army.

It's doubtful that they have

any chance of beating the

better-equipped Serbian police

and army.



PANDORA

week after he rebuked the Prime Minister for encouraging "fawning and obsequious" parliamentary questions, the Labour backbencher Andrew Mackinlay can hold his head high. Bnt Pandora has learnt that Mackinlay - whose question implied that many questions asked by Labour backbenchers were thoroughly rehearsed did some rehearsing of his own. Before he ever rose to his feet in the House, he was coached by Dennis Skinner, who took pains to ensure that Mackinlay did not fluff the word "obsequious". Odd that, since it's the last word you would associate with the Beast of Bolsover.

IT SEEMS the latest male sexual wonder drug is already, indirectly at least, making an impact on the frontiers of British fashion. Word reaches Pandora of a must-see fashion show coming to the Cornerhouse arts centre, in Manchester, in July. Two sisters, the fashion designer Helen Storey and the biologist Dr Kate Storey, have collaborated on a collection of clothes whose theme is the first 1,000 hours of human life. Called Primitive Streak, a hig highlight is the "1,000 sperm coat" which is described as "embroidered onto dissolved fabric". Pandora wonders if all the It Girls will be sporting these to ward off next autumn's chill? Of course the show is being sponsored by Pfizer, manufacturers of

THE HIGH PRICES of football tickets and team merchandise have long been a preoccupation of MP Nigel Griffiths, the Trade & Industry Under-Secretary. Readers of his column in the now defunct Labour Party News will recall Griffith's zealous protests against clubs who exploited their loyal fans. Now that he is in a position to do something, Griffiths has ensured that the Office of Fair Trading is undertaking a review on football strip prices.

However, when Pandora rang the OFT, a spokesman said that an individual club could be forced to reduce its ticket prices only if it has a 25 per cent share of the entire UK football market. Otherwise they were "in a position to charge what they like". Even giants like Manchester United and Arsenal fall woefully short of 25 per cent of the 24,680,053 footie tickets sold in this country last year. Pandora suggests Griffiths in striker Teddy Sheringham

HAILED for his hravery last | troduce a special hill in the next parliamentary session to set price controls on all football events and gear. Surely this would make him - and New Labour - heroic in the eyes of Britain's largest interest group. And would any Opposition member have the nerve to vote

> WAS the Little Tramp a paedophile? Yes, without a doubt, according to his latest hiographer, the Harvard professor Kenneth Lynn whose book Charlie Chaplin and His Times documents numerous instances of Chaplin's controversial, indeed scandalous. sexual behaviour. His wives included Mildred Harris, who claimed she first slept with Chaplin when she was 13 and Lillita McMurray, who met him at age 12, and whom Chaplin called "the age of innocence" until they split when she became "the bitch".

Other Chaplin conquests included a ten-year-old actress named Mabille Fournier and and an unnamed girl of eight. Professor Lynn told a New York Post reporter, "I admire Chaplin tremendously as an artist. But I would not have allowed him anywhere near my granddanghters."

HOW PLEASING to receive an invitation to this evening's London film premiere of Stiff Upper Lips, a send-up of British costume epics such as A Room With A View and A Passage To India. The invitation promises a glittering party afterwards at the Cafe des Amis which will be attended by cast and crew, including Sir Peter Ustinov, Prunella Scales and, intriguingly, the actor Brian Glover. who died on 25 July 1997.



The Manchester United

The shocking truth: I'm not a lad

IT WAS the cake. Lying in bed, bugeyed and clammy-skinned, at 3 am, I suddenly understand why I'm feeling unusually wakeful. Earlier in the evening, the goalkeeper had produced his own contribution to the evening, homemade to his own special recipe and, politely, I had taken a large slice. Homemade! Special? Ganja cake, of course. Here I am, in my own bed, in my own house, stoned out of my box. No wonder I can't sleep

Not that the reggae party going on downstairs helps too much. Nor the loud voices and occasional bursts of guitar, nor the occasional bewildering thud that, to my poor befuddled hrain, seems to shake the house to its foundations.

What an excellent idea this was. A Saturday night away from London for the football team. Tomorrow morning, we'll be playing a local Norfolk village side but, before then, it's a night out for the lads. Beer, barbecue, laughs, music and dashing the hopes of the midfielder who, with tragic innocence of the night life of Diss, has brought two packets of three - not a woman in



TERENCE BLACKER

I suppose I'm not alone among domesticated males in yearning now and then to get in touch with my inner lad

Someone's hit the volume. The juddering thuds are becoming more frequent. It occurs to me that, as manager, I might now be obliged to invoke the Teddy Sheringham ruling and suggest, that, in view of the big match tomorrow, a few hours' ep might not be a bad idea. But

they're having such a good time and this was what a lad's night out was always meant to be - an escape from families and babies and guilt.

Sod it. Half an hour later, I'm downstairs. In a casual, non-authoritarian way, I ask them to pack it in for the night. The thudding continues. I pad about the house, eventually discovering that a defender is perfecting his penalty-taking skills against the back of the house. "You're kicking against my wall," I shout feebly into the darkness

Back in bed. A sort of silence descends upon the house. Then, from under my window, the ominous "tock' of wood agamst wood. Some of the team are winding down with a 4am game of croquet. I really think they've had enough now. Have they any idea what time it is?

I suppose I'm not alone among domesticated males in yearning now and then to get in touch with my inner lad, to return to a bawdy, innocent, prelapsarian past of had behaviour, before responsibility began to exert its iron grasp. We dream of being able to sit around, smoking, lagered up, getting it down us, telling inappropriate jokes, occasionally breaking wind in a comradely fashion.

The fact that some of us never were authentic, fully-fledged lads, even when we were lads, doesn't shake our belief that, at the right time, in the right place, our healthy, innate boorish maleness will hurst into glorious bloom. Within every Gary Lineker among us, a Gazza is waiting to stagger forth. All we need is our own private Five Bellies to lead us astray

By morning, I've discovered that my inner lad doesn't exist; instead I have an inner Mummy. As I rouse the team with some difficulty, set up breakfast, clear away some of the debris of the night before, I find that the real me is emerging, good-humoured but tight-lipped and slightly put upon, wiping down surfaces with a martyred air.

I love my team very much. Once a week from October to April, we meet, chat briefly while changing, go out and play the silky-skilled yet committed football for which we're famous, have a quick drink and then go our separate ways. But now, honestly, talk about irresponsible. They're husbands, fathers, citizens, some of them have even got jobs, and yet they're as sublimely self-contained and oblivious to others as teenagers. How do they manage that? I'm jealous

We get stuffed. Of course we get stuffed. What did we expect when half the team can hardly see the goal, let alone put the ball into it? 1-0. As we leave the pitch, there are a few heated and acrimonious discussions as to who was to blame for the defeat but, in the bar with the opposition, we're all just Sunday

footballers together Afternoon. The team's hard core lingers on consuming the brandy and beer that one of them has bought with the money he was meant to pay me for last night's barbecue. I've gone a bit silent now, as I collect the beer cans from under the bushes around the garden. Eventually, even they get the hint

After they've gone, I grant my-self a hit of quality time in a deckchair, rerunning this morning's 90-minute hangover of a game and the long, arduous night before. Then I get out the hoover, a duster, even - yes, I'm not afraid to admit it - the Pledge, and set to work.

Why I'm happy to 'play God' with your food

Prince Charles has given voice to widespread public concern about transgenic crop plants. We genetic engineers are "playing God" and threatening "living pollution that cannot be recalled". But is there real cause for concern?

I've worked with transgenic plants for 15 years, in the US and the UK. The more I do it, the less I worry about it. It's striking that in contrast to the nuclear and chemical industries, there are no whistleblowers; people who work with the technology do not experience alarm about how it is being deployed.

Remember when nuclear power was going to make electricity "too cheap to meter"? We've all been disappointed. But that doesn't mean that everything every scientist says is untrue. Much is made of the BSE scare, but scientists said they could not be sure if brains of BSE cattle were safe to eat, and MAFF perversely took this to mean there was no need for caution. Blame MAFF, not the scientists.

Environmental concern led me to a career in plant hiology; we cannot take our high-tech society back to a low-tech agriculture. There is no doubt that increased human populations throughout the globe are extremely destructive to the environment. It simply is appalling how rainforests are cut down, fisheries fished out and water resources are overutilized and polluted. But the solutions require more science, not less. Science of course is not the only solution; strong and effective laws are needed to prevent environmentally destructive practice.

resist disease. As a consumer, I worry about fungicides and insecticides in the food I and my children eat. The solution? Agriculture based on genetics, rather than chemistry. Delivering crop protection inside the

Prince Charles has condemned genetic

engineers for manipulating nature. But scientists argue that their work will

benefit us all. By Jonathan Jones

plant is less polluting than spraying chemicals.

Early deployment of transgenic plant technology includes herbicide resistance and insect resistance. Not surprisingly, herbicide manufacturers seek to engineer varieties that resist their herbicides. Herbicides are not all the same: some are persistent and toxic to animals, and others are rapidly inactivated on soil contact and non toxic. Monsanto's Roundup is a less undesirable herhicide than those it replaces. Sovbean farmers in the US have broadly embraced Roundup-ready soybeans, because it makes it easier for them to prevent weeds over-running their crop.

In cotton, insect damage is severe and 60 per cent of all US insecticide applications go on this crop. Very substantial reductions are now being made in cotton insecticide application by engineering insect resistence. With the same technology, hig yield increases in maize have also heen obtained, with more effective insect control. How can this possibly be a bad thing?

Roundup resistance is accomplished by slightly modifying an enzyme that is present in all plants, and which is a target of the herbicide, to a form that is insensitive to the her-I'm proud to work on how plants bicide. In every other respect the plant is identical. A typical plant carries 20,000 genes, most of which we

do not understand the function of Genetic engineering of plants involves adding two or three genes to this complement of 20,000, and the

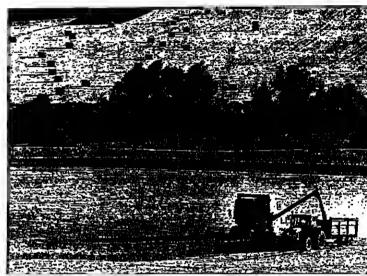
genes that are added are extreme ly well understood. I do not believe the statements we so often hear that "we cannot predict the consequences of our actions". We can predict them very well. We can also predict the consequences of large scale application of agrichemicals. and I know which I prefer.

Is this technology signficantly different from traditional plant breeding? Yes. Is it worryingly different? No. In fact it's better It's more precise, it's easier to control, it enables one to take the properties of a plant more directly towards a

Contrary to popular belief, there are no tomatoes out there in stores with fish anti freeze genes in. But I would be unfazed if there were. After all, every time we eat fish we eat a lot of fish DNA and it doesn't seem to have done us any harm so

When we eat tomatoes we are eating material that carries disease resistance genes that have been bred in from wild relatives of tomato, and perhaps 2,000 other genes unavoidably brought in at the same time that are not the same as in the cultivated plant. This is a much less well controlled exercise, with less easily forseen consequences, because we don't know what these genes are. Nevertheless, the human population continues onward and upward.

We have always heen making substantial changes to the environ-



every change has been a disaster. For example, it is quite unnatural to grow potatoes, tomatoes and sunflowers in Europe. These are American plants. Doubtless they displaced many local varieties; so what? It is irrational to fetishise transgenic plant technology as a technology where protracted public consultation is required. Why not also have a public enquiry every time a new fungicide or insecticide is re-

There's an irony about the complaints about engineering herbicide resistance. The worst possible outcome about which alarms are sounded is that the herbicide resistance will "get out" and give rise to "superweeds". But without the resistance gene in the crop, the herhicide would not be applied. If it did get out, so that the weeds were also resistant, we would simply revert to the status quo ante, and the herbicide would not be used.

This is surely precisely the outcome that opponents of herbicide ment through agriculture, and not use are seeking. It is also precisely

the outcome that the herbicide manufacturers would wish to avoid; the last thing they would wish is for farmers to have to apply their competitors herbicides for weed control! So they have an incentive to insist on sensible use.

What about consumer choice? I think the realistic answer is that most food products will potentially derive from GM plants, but in the same way as there is an organic shelf in the store, there will be a "non GM" shelf. It is tragic that the organic movement has adopted the view that no GM food can be regarded as organic, since GM plants are the most realistic approach to reducing agri-

chemical applications. Ultimately, whether GM foods qualify as organic is a theological argument. I, and I think most sensible consumers, will prefer agriculture based on genetics to agriculture based on chemistry. Genes are a lot safer than organophosphates.

Jonathan Jones is a professor at the Sainsbury Laboratory, Norwich.

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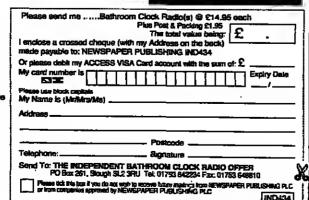
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How to liberate the people of Britain

MY SUBJECT is the way we run our country. The Thatcher years were about the financial empowerment of the citizen through share ownership and other measures, while the present programme of constitutional reform is about matching that with the political empowerment of the citizen. Britain probably now leads

Europe in our modern business structures. But we're far behind almost every other free democracy when it comes to the openness and structure of our politics. It's time to catch up.

We have our first "fair votes" election within a year - for the European Parliament. And this autumn, the Jenkins Commission on the Voting System will recommend a proportional voting system for the House of Commons to be put to the British people in a referen-

The Government of Britain will never be the same again. The onus is now on those of us who believe in reform to set out why we believe, and to set out the big picture of the kind of society we are trying to build.

allow communities to experiment with new ideas. Take the idea of elected mayors. I have some doubts about these. But I believe the risks could be worth taking if they lead to more awareness and accountability in local politics. At the local level, we should be prepared to use referendums much more often to give local government wider powers of expenditure on capital projects, subject to certain safeguards, provided they had first obtained the agreement of their

But increased limited use of direct democracy at a local level does not mean that we should leave our representative system as it is, because our electoral system does not provide for majority rule as democracy is meant to require. Most of the time, it lets the strongest minority rule. Polling experts predict Labour could win the next election, even if they get less votes than the Tories - just because their votes are in the right places, and the Tories'

voters in a referendum.

It is very odd. The 21st cen-We should be prepared to tury voter marches down the



PODIUM PADDY ASHDOWN

Extract of a speech by the Leader of the Liberal Democrats to the Westminster Forum, London, yesterday

aisle of their new aupermarket polling station on election day. What do they see? Twenty brands of washing powder. Thirty flavours of soup. Forty kinds of microwave meal. But at the ballot box only two choices of government

Think about it. How should a true socialist have voted at the

General Election if Peter Mandelson was their Labour candidate? Or a pro-European Tory in John Redwood's seat? Or an anti-European in Ted There are huge numbers of

people in Britain who look at ballot papers and find no candidate to reflect their views. And there are many more who have no candidate to vote for who stands a chance of winning, and therefore feel they have no way of making their vote count.

Does our electoral system ensure all significant minorities are fairly represented? No.

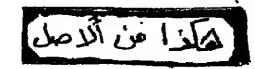
Proportional representation is the politics of inclusion. It's about giving people a chance to vote for what they believe in. Some say PR will mean weak government. John Major, of all people, had the gall to claim this in Parliament last week PR, he said, leads to governments which are "unstable" and "uncertain", "coalition, compro-mise and indecision". Even, he said, to governments "hamstrung by small religious par-

ties". Not like his then! All governments are coalitions. What PR actually leads to is not weaker government, but more considered government. open coalitions, without the opportunity for a government elected with minority support to railroad through proposals which lack broad, popular support. We would not have had either the poll tax or rail

privatisation under PR. And government should concentrate on providing less active, but more effective, administration. Government that steers, but doesn't itself row. I do not believe we need all 100 of the ministers we have now. It is absurd that the number of ministers has increased while the number of civil servants has shrunk. It should be a principle that the number of ministers does not exceed a tenth of the number of MPs. We

don't need them. What does all this add up to? It can he summed up in a single sentence

Our aim is a Britain huilt around a single concept - that of the powerful free citizen, living in a strong community and supported by an enabling





DAVID AARONOVITCH

It doesn't matter who gets the blame. The real villain is the current epidemic of credulity

sn't all this Diana conspiracy stuff a hoot, eh? A bit upsetting for the families maybe, but anyone else watching last week's TV programmes dealing with the 1997 crash, including a hilariously acrimonious debate between two rival documentary makers, will have been - at the very least - entertained. And if one of these shows failed to live up to the highest standards of investigative journalism, well so what? The fact is that for most people, conspiracies are great fun.

Unless, like me, you happen be part of one. I discovered only last week that I am involved in a pretty big plot, and it's made me feel rather nervous. I happened upon it when - in one of my periodic bouts of mingled vanity and insecurity - I was searching the Internet for mentions of, er, me. And there I was. Mentioned twice in what the authors described as "simply a study of who controls public opinion in Great Britain".

This project, conducted under the auspices of something called Radio Islam asked itself. "Who is behind it all? Who are the people who determine what is watched on television and printed in the newspapers?" and went on, "This is not so easy a study because a great many of the people concerned operate in the shadows. And even in the case of those whose names are known; what is known about their backgrounds and their connections? Very little."

And who are they? Yes, you've got it. "For this reason, very few people in Britain are aware of the huge influence over the mass media exercised by a certain ethnic minority, namely the Jews."

Helpfully Radio Islam sets about the difficult business of naming names. "In the fol-lowing text, we have highlighted individuals of Jewish origin by setting their names in bold type. Not all of the names in question will seem obviously Jewish; it has been the habit of Jews over the centuries to change their names, adopting those which best blend with the populations of the countries in which they have settled."

(My grandparents, illiterate peasants that they were, presumably made the mistake of adopting the kind of name -Aaronovitch - that was very popular in the East End at the turn of the century. Unfortunately for their sinister plan, it turned out that the East End was full of other Jews. Foiled again!]

かいんりょう は神さな型

40 200-2

Where persons with non-Jewish names are designated as Jewish, the reader can rest assured that extensive research has established them." And, reassuringly, my colleagues Donald Macintyre and Hamish McRae do not appear on the list. Neither does the proprietor of this paper, Tony O'Reilly - though I have my suspicions. I mean, what would a Jew landing in Cork call himself in order to "blend in"? Netanyahu?

Now, some conspiracies are less popular than others. It's a bit of a fashion thing. and since the Holocaust the taste for Jewish plots has subsided a tad. And this could be because everybody has become a little more aware of the possible link between suggesting that Jewish people were involved in a conspiracy, and the subsequent ill-treatment of the race so accused. But this awareness had taken a very long time.

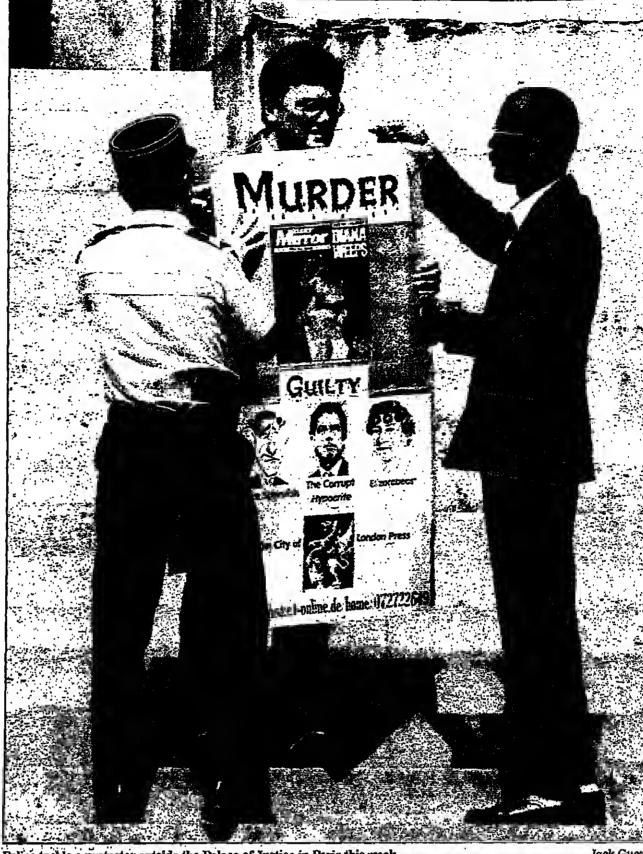
In 1039 a chronicler name of Rodulfus (or Ralph the Bald) told the tale of how, 30 years earlier, the Jews of Orleans in France secretly persuaded the Muslim prince of Cairo to pull down the church in Jerusalem containing the Holy Sepulchre. Apparently they had bribed a fugitive serf and sent him to Cairo with letters in Hebrew, written on thin parchment strips hidden inside the iron of his staff, urging them to perform the destruction.

The story got out and, according to Rodulfus: "Once they knew this the Christians throughout the whole world decided unanimously to drive the Jews from their lands and cities. Some were put to the sword, others were drowned in rivers, and many found other deaths ... After this very proper vengeance had been taken, very few of them were to be found in the Roman (i.e. Western] world."

The same thing happened periodically over the next nine centuries, with Jews accused of ganging up with lepers and the Moslem king of Granada to poison wells (thus causing the Black Death), and -a hundred and fifty years ago - of getting together and plotting world domination. The minutes of that supposed meeting were, of course, the infamous Protocols of the Elders of Zion, which are also thoughtfully provided by Radio Islam on its website.

What has all this got to do with Diana? Though Secrets Behind The Crash was coy about who might have shone the wholly speculative military flash-gun in the eyes of M Henri Paul on the last night in August, others detect the hand of Mossad, the Israeli secret service. Some Arab journalists actually suggest that the marriage of the world's third greatest Christian icon to a Muslim would have been intolerable to world Jewry. Mr Fayed has not himself blamed the Jews, preferring (as far as I can tell) to implicate a jealous anti-Muslim British establishment.

But it doesn't really matter who gets the lame. The real connection between Dianagate and Aaronovitchgate is, I believe, the current epidemic of credulity. Sixty-four per cent of Americans are said to believe that aliens have been contacting people on earth, abducting them and probing their anuses. Books that claim that the world is full of human/alien hybrids sell in their millions. TV programmes lend credibility to weird theories, such as The Face On Mars (constructed by alien civilisations and covered up by Nasa), to faith healers, to ghosts, to mumbo jumbo of all kinds. The pyramids were built by spacemen, dogs know when their masters die a continent



Police tackle a protester outside the Palace of Justice in Paris this week

this year's Eurovision song contest winner

There is, as Frederick Crews points out in this week's New York Review of Books. a vast amount of money in all this - Whitley Strieber's Communion (the abductionist classic) got an advance of a million dollars. But it is a fair bet that the publishers and executives, who commission and print this tosh, do not believe any of it themselves. When was the last time you spotted a senior newspaper or TV exec consulting a

of camaraderie but celebrates

Martin Bell, who con-

tributed to the London Review

of Books, has moved from

jective" journalism to a "jour-

nalism of attachment". Miller

seems to concur. A practical

man, be knows that respons-

balanced, dispassionate, ob-

outsiders. Duality again.

away, the Bible has a secret code which pre-faith-healer, having his or her house exordicted the assassination of Rabin - but not cised, or - at a dinner party - opining that Stonehenge was the work of Venusians?

No, they just print it, transmit it, and take the money or enjoy the ratings - over 12 million watched the Diana programme, a huge figure for a "current affairs" show. You can't help wondering whether, had ITV existed in the 11th century, we might not have had a trailer read in that boomy, doomy voice: "Tonight. What shadowy forces may have been behind the destruction of the Church of the Holy Sepulchre last year?

Who was this man, and what was in his staff? Watch The Secret Behind The Sacrilege on ITV tonight!"

Tosh begets more tosh. Suspend your disbelief here, and why should you retrieve it there? So a world in which Diana can be murdered by MI5, and a world in which Nasa can cover up certain evidence of alien existence, is a world in which I got together with the Chief Rabbi and Mossad to plan this misleading article. And where someone else might just decide that I deserve to be punished for it.

RIGHT OF REPLY

MARY LOUDON



The writer rebuts criticism of performers and audiences at the Hay-on-Wye festival

FOR 10 DAYS at the end of May more than 40,000 descended upon the border town on Hay-on-Wye, home to 1,100. They filled hotels, B&Bs and campsites for miles around: they ate and drank, they walked on the hills and along the Wye; some fished, some cycled, some browsed in local shops. All came to the Festival.

Last Tuesday, Michael Glover wrote in this paper about the foolishness of those who go to Hay, and the vanity of the performers - as he has done repeatedly in recent years, although he and his delightful family have been guests of the festival, staying in beautiful accommodation nearby and driving one of the official cars he professes to despise.

This year's attack was astonishingly vituperative. Writers were "a damnable chat-pack", readers an "ignorant" bunch of pensioners. Let them jump in a lake, he wrote, "and may a thousand Excaliburs be poised to receive their tenderest

The Festival takes place in a jumble of marquees on a school's playing fields. Everyone, performers and audiences alike, eats in the same tent, walks through the same puddles, stays in the same B&Bs, chats in the same sunny courtyard. Never have I seen so levelling and unpretentious a setting for such a mixed group of people, such scaling down to size of the few egos there

As a writer who has been lucky enough to appear five times at the festival, I find audiences well-informed, intelligent and friendly. The Festival is celebrated, enjoyed, loved, by those who run it, patronise it, profit by it or perform at it. How sad for Michael Glover that be still feels unable to join in.

A thoroughbred and his stable

TUESDAY BOOK

DARK HORSES: AN EXPERIENCE OF LITERARY JOURNALISM KARL MILLER, PICADOR, £16.99

ture of duality. Foes accuse him of duplicity; editorial balance can look like that. Several writers he espoused turned on him. He speculates on their reasons in his "editorial autobiography", a sequel to his first volume of memoirs, Rebecca's Vest. Dark Horses ends with the editor lying on his bed, fiddling with his "coffeecoloured ivory netsuke", reflecting on life, literature, football, the Labour victory, his health. He musters a muted chuckle: he is Caliban, at last alone on the island. The magic has almost worn off. But not quite. This book

KARL MILLER, editor and crit-

ic, is fascinated by Doubles, the

title of his study of the litera-

strives to re-create something of the excitement and peril of being an editor and teacher when the contours of culture - literary, sexual, political - altered. He dedicates it "to the writers I have published": a creditable stable, including Brigid Brophy, Conor Cruise O'Brien, Kingsley Amis, VS Naipaul, Seamus Heaney, Tom Paulin, Hugo Williams, Craig Raine. Miller as editor made a difference. But it's hard to put a finger on what that difference is. It has to do with standards, critical debate and engagement, forging a generation; and with the promotion of a kind of no-nonsense philistinism, hostile to Modernism ("still news, when I was a boy. It is now history"). Frances Partridge remarked of an evening with him, "it was like a night out with stockbrokers". He doesn't like stockbrokers, or Bloomsbury for that matter. He was a young man in a

hurry ahandoning Leavis and Cambridge, and going over to the enemy: London, the media. The young man survives, sporting the same chips on his shoulder. He says he is vain, unprogrammatic, with a republican, Scottish, Labourite bent. Time and teaching have made him less iconoclastic than he was at The Spectator, the New Statesman, and dramatically - at The Listener. Miller traces his editorial antecedents back to 1802, to Francis Jeffrey's Edinburgh Review. Like Jeffrey he's a severe Scot, pitting the Enlightenment against the Establishment, agnostic before

the institutions of culture. Even in retirement, Miller remains reckonable. As a young writer, I knew he was the editor to send things to. As a middle-aged editor I regard him as a star to take bearings from, if not to steer by. What makes his memoir uneasy reading is his double standard. He forgives Amis, Naipaul and O'Brien for opinions he condemns in writers in whom he has a smaller investment. The stockbroker

The author of Dark Horses comes over as a malcontent. He allows himself one epiphany: "that night in Ireland" when he attended a ceilidh with Seamus Heaney in Belfast, with the Irish fiddle,

with airs that hurt not," says Caliban, "and it seemed like holy ground, though far from clerical ground, or holy-war ground." How far? A gathering of friends - Republican friends Miller acknowledges himself as the occasion's "sentimental monoglot over-interpreter",

singing. "The house was filled joy at this inclusion. He talks in Belfast in the Seventies. ible criticism and journalism but he won't let go his abiding



elbow-pipes, recitations and Seamus Heaney; camaraderie with outsiders

clear spaces for creative, as for political, action. The dynamics of working for his four journals propelled him towards "attachment", especially in the Thatcher years, with the founding of the London Review of Books, Miller's (Mary-Kay Wilmers's, and Susannah Clapp's) indispensable legacy. In Miller's journals, the sense of deliberate design was compelling. LRB controversies had the delicious sense of having been choreographed. Storm clouds were gathered by a deliberate hand; the thunder and lightning might go on

for weeks. Dark Horses is cobbled together. Miller cannibalises his Northcliffe lectures, introductions and journalism. It is no doubt good ecology to recycle, but journalism and lectures are different in kind from bookwriting, unless the book is a mere collection of journalism. The pace of Dark Horses is uneven. Miller wants to reflect his multifarious concerns - Eric Cantona, Richard Rorty, Richard Crossman, Fanny Hill. He should have started from memory, making those risky juxtapositions which were the news of Modernism.

Almost-revelations tease us: it's still not clear why Miller left the LRB. He sets out bare facts but doesn't flesh them out. I wish he had; it was an important creation and departure. Perhaps we'll never hear the full story from the horse's mouth. We leave him on his bed, netsuke in hand, gazing out of the window, and beyond it, to the deep blue air ...

MICHAEL SCHMIDT

TUESDAY POEM

FRESH SIGHS FOR SALE BY ALAIN BOSQUET. TRANSLATED BY SAMUEL BECKETT

Fresh sighs for sale! Prime doubts a penny! Scowis going at a loss! When I'm sold out I'll go far from me and these among

a mango warm from the bough, a more than feline kiss, a few objects without

be born again:

name. Fresh hopes for sale! Prime sooth a penny! Smiles going at a loss! Bargains, bargains in and

out of reason!

Our poems today and tomorrow come from the latest batch of Poems on the Underground, The 15 poems by major modern European poets, which will appear in London

tube carriages throughout June and July, mark the British presidency of the European Union.



John Titchell

draughtsman. A simple approach, very straight, intense observation, bent on finding out what he needed for his work. He worked rather slowly and methodically. There was an obsessiveness in his work, no flourishes. The drawings were tightly structured and strongly designed and composed, constantly looking, sifting and selecting.

His sequence paintings were original like the man. He would make four versions of the same subject from morning to sunset or through the seasons and arriving on site as early as 6 o'clock in the morning. I know of nobody who used colour in his manner. Completely

He creates a parallel which embodies both a reality and an idea, like a poem about light

unphotographic, his work translates and sifts his visual experience. He creates a parallel which embodies both a reality and an idea, like a poem about light.

Titchell was affectionately known to all as Titch, but was in fact rather tall, He was born in Kent in 1926. He served in the Army during the Second World War and saw something of Germany and India. He talked a lot about India and always wanted to return. He said the experience profoundly affected his attitude towards colour and he was amazed by the light and its hrilliance. He liked the Indian people and developed a taste for Indian food and he would

travel miles to a good restaurant. My wife and I visited Titch on the day he died. We had a wonderful af-

JOHN TITCHELL was a fine where it had all begun in a sense - draughtsman. A simple approach, a dilapidated old Georgian house in the Kent countryside rented in turn by a number of artists, including Titch (in the late Fifties), Campbell Bruce and Jacqueline Stanley, and myself; we returned afterwards to Titch and Audrey's for cake and tea. There was no indication of what was about to happen, as he looked so well. We were planning a visit to Somerset. During our conversation he was reminiscing about Sideup Art School where our friendship began.

Sideup was an experience which he maintained changed his life. The Principal, J. Robinson (Robbo to his students), made a lasting impression on Titch by his calm, patient man-ner to young pupils of 14 years of age. He also met a young Ruskin Spear and Robin Guthrie who Titch said was a gent, both excellent draughtsmen and painters.

Under their guidance he gained entrance to the Royal College of Art, where he was taught by Rodrigo Moynihan, Carel Weight, John Minton, Colin Hayes, Robert Buhler and others, all professional painters. His appetite for art was insatiable. Music, literature, films, painting and sculpture - where better a place to encourage and nurture this appetite than art school.

1 believe that Titch in turn was repaying a debt for the treatment he had received at those schools, for when he became a teacher himself he was to become one of the finest and most conscientious of all his generation. He taught in a number of art schools, principally Hornsey, Walthamstow and Maidstone.

His teaching was direct and simple. Critical of weakness, he countered this with sound advice as to a. remedy and was quick to praise and to encourage effort and hard work, to guide his students to a fuller understanding of their work and problems. He had no ambition to become a full-time teacher. He did not want that kind of safety. "It would stop me working if I had a cushy number." He also maintained that he wanted to ternoon visiting Egerton House, spend his time teaching students,



Titchell at home in Kent: It would stop me working if I had a cushy number

not in meetings and on committees. In the late 1950s, he and his family moved to the countryside and in the early 1960s found their home in Pluckley, where his wife Audrey started to plan and build the garden which became such a central and important theme in Titch's work. It is a beautiful garden, just as exciting on a small scale as Great Dixter or Sissinghurst. The garden, the Kent landscape and the coastline around Folkestone and Hythe were his inspiration.

He was dogged by ill-health for the last 20 years of his life, suffering vein that became poetic. For exam-

heart problems. These he refused to recognise and continued to work as regularly and as hard as ever before. Sadly in his life he did not receive the recognition he deserved.

He loved creative people and his friends included musicians, writers, composers, painters, sculptors and potters and people from every walk of life. All of them were captivated by his charm, his work and his stories, for he was one of the greatest of yarn spinners, some true, some invented on the spur of the moment. He occasionally struck a lyric

ple his description of the tea tent at Canterbury Cricket Week - "the clicking of bat to ball and the steam of the tea urns and the wheelchairs and the hats. The polite applause mingled with the gentle clacking of false teeth filled the air." Such imagination and observation.

He was a great family man, enjoying his grandchildren, and indeed all children, since he was infinitely patient and he never lost his touch with the young. He gave the greatest attention to his students and their problems, possessing that rare grace of seeming to have all the time in the world to listen and to advise. He loved to argue and converse on any subject, to be devil's advocate. He would argue against his own argument in

order to prolong a discussion.

We all in our lives have had some good and some bad lnck. Like many, am sure, I thought it my good luck to be friends with John Titchell. Fred Cuming

John Titchell, painter: born Cray-ford, Kent 6 August 1926; ARA 1986, RA 1991; married 1947 Audrey Ward (one son, one daughter); died Plockley, Kent 11 May 1998.

Geraint Jones

IN THE YEARS following the Second World War, Geraint Jones explored the world of baroque music and was influential in a return to an "authentic" performing style. Despite a sometimes hostile reaction from the press, he persevered, and through several series of concerts as both conductor and keyboard player, he demonstrated the validity of these musical ideas.

The son of a minister, Jones stnd. ied at Caterham School, in Surrey, and was subsequently a Sterndale Bennett Scholar at the Royal Academy of Music. He volunteered for service in the Second World War but was rejected on the grounds of poor health. Determined to "do his bit" Jones made his début as a harpsichordist in 1940 at one of Dame Myra Hess's National Gallery concerts, where he continued to appear on a regular basis until 1944. He soon be-

came known as a virtuoso. Immediately after the war, Jones launched into a series of concerts performing the complete organ works of Bach in London. This was a composer to whom he returned a decade later at the Festival Hall, but to a mixed reaction.

One reviewer said: "It is in resource and in the handling of Allegros that Mr Jones's performances excel." Ten days later, the same newspaper (the reviewers were then anonymous) wrote: "As a player, Mr Jones has a clean technique and an austere taste; his playing of the big Prelude in E flat could only be described as antiseptic." The epithet was not as unjustified as it might sound: while intellectually brilliant, Jones's playing was not renowned for its emotional content. Undeterred, Jones embarked on an annual series of organ recitals at the South Bank which ran for more than 30 years.

Already married and divorced by the end of the Forties, Jones undertook many concerts for violin and harpsichord with his second wife, the violinist Winifred Roberts. Together they toured the world performing neglected music of the baroque era.

Winifred subsequently became the leader of the Geraint Jones Orchestra, which evolved from a series of acclaimed performances of Purcell's Dido and Aeneas with the soprano Kirsten Flagstad and the baritone Thomas Hemsley, conducted by Jones, in the opening season of Bernard Miles's Mermaid Theatre in 1951.

The now historic recording of this Dido and Aeneas - which included Elisabeth Schwarzkopf was produced by Walter Legge for HMV and was the first of many recordings featuring music by Bach, Handel and Mozart. Among them was the Italian version of Gluck's Alceste, also with Flagstad. Jones's discs won the Grand Prix du Disque in 1959 and 1966.

By 1969 Jones was hitting relatively modern music. With the pianist Stephen Bishop he championed all of Mozart's piano concertos in a 15month series at the Queen Elizabeth Hall in London. At the end of the final concert in April 1970, the artists returned to the stage to acknowledge the applause and by way of an encore repeated the slow movement of the C major Concerto (K467) but with Jones at the keyboard and Bishop on the rostrum.

During the 1960s and 1970s Jones came to be seen as more of a musical statesman. He was artistic director of several festivals, including the Lake District Festival which he founded in 1960, Salisbury Festival (1973-77) and Manchester Festival (1977-87). But it was to the Kirckman Concert Society, founded in 1963 to provide a platform for outstanding young artists, that he devoted much of his time and energy. His 35 years as director of the Kir-

ckman Concert Society marked him out as a man with a great knack for spotting talented youngsters. Stephen Bishop was just one of Jones's protégés. The singer Mitsuko Shirai and the pianist Hartmut Holl, and more recently the Emperor String Quartet, were other beneficiaries of the society's largesse.

Away from the platform Jones was very highly thought of as an organ designer Like Bach he was a connoisseur not just of music but of instruments, and he was involved in the construction of organs at the Royal Northern College of Music. St. Andrew's University, the Royal Academy of Music and the Acade my for Performing Arts in Hong

A true Welshman in manner and character, Jones forever had a twinkle in his eye and had a mischievous sense of humour. He adored smart cars, pretty women, and parties, where he was a shrewd people watcher. He retained a large and assorted circle of friends until the very end of his life.

Tim Bullamore

Geraint Iwan Jones, musician: born Porth, Glamorgan 16 May 1917; FRAM 1954; Professor, Royal Academy of Music 1961-88; married 1940 M.A. Kemp (one daughter), 1949 Winifred Roberts; died London 3 May 1998.

Professor Alan Milne

ALAN MILNE was a distinguished while still a student. He completed political philosopher whose achieve- the undergraduate course in 1949 ment is all the more remarkable be- and went on to research for a PhD, military action during the Second World War before he had even begun university study.

Most university teachers of political theory are historians who expound the work of great thinkers of the past. Just a few are genuine philosophers who take a critical approach to the classical texts and add their own contribution to the subject. Alan Milne was one of that select

He was born at Marlow in 1922 and educated at the Dragon School, Oxford, and Uppingham. He enlisted in the Army immediately on leaving school in 1939 and served first in the Royal Artillery and then in the Commandos. It was when leading a bridgehead commando in Germany in the spring of 1945 that he was hit by a sniper's bullet which blinded

After receiving training for the blind at St Dunstan's, he became a student in the Department of Government at the London School of Economics. He was of course unable to read for himself and there were no audiobooks in those days, but a number of his fellow students took it in turn to read books and articles to him. He married one of those devoted readers, Anita Littlestone,

awarded a Commonwealth Fund Fellowship to continue his studies for two years in the United States.

After a brief period back at the LSE as an Assistant Lecturer, he was appointed in 1956 to a Lectureship in Social Philosophy at Queen's University, Belfast. Since the post was firmly in philosophy rather than social studies or politics, he felt it was incumbent upon him to become thoroughly proficient in philosophy, which he did off his own bat.

He found himself attracted to post-Hegelian Idealism, which was regarded by most of the Oxford philosophers as having been refuted by G.E. Moore and the disciples of J. Cook Wilson. A notable exception, however, was R.G. Collingwood, who continued the Idealist tradition in his own inimitable way and who came to have a conaiderable influence on Milne's development.

At Belfast Milne's success as a teacher and author led to his being promoted to a Readership and then to a personal Chair. He left in 1975 for Durham, where he held the Chair of Political Theory and Institutions until his retirement in 1987. His wife Anita died of cancer in 1985. having been for all those years his

and whom he married in 1986. His tribute to her in his last book shows that she too was an indispensable

> Milne's first book, The Social Philosophy of English Idealism (1962), was something of a pathbreaker in inducing students of political thought to go back to F.H. Bradley, T.H. Green, and Bernard Bosanquet, and to attend also to the American Idealist Josiah Royce. In later years Milne came to see that the moral and political thought of the three English writers was flawed, altough he continued to feel a debt to Green.

The best-known of Milne's books is Freedom and Rights (1968), in which he goes against the stream of fashion which understands freedom as simply a negative concept (the absence of restraint). Milne, like the Idealists, wanted to add a positive idea, hut where they talked of self-realisation he used the more intelligible notion of selfdetermination. His discussion of rights drew some valuable distinctions and was followed up by two further books, The Right to Dissent (1983) and Human Rights and Human Diversity (1986).

He continued to write after retirement and, a couple of months

"indispensable helpmeet", to quote ago, published Ethical Frontiers of the words of her successor, Susan the State. Margaret Thatcher's Elkan, who had likewise been one of claim of having "rolled back the fron-Milne's readers in his student days. tiers of the state" promoted Milne to marshal his thoughts on the question of what should be the frontiers of the state. They are given within the framework of a systematic moral philosophy and range beyond ethical questions to include helpful analysis of many political concepts. He planned a sequel and had completed the greater part of it,

which will be edited for publication. Unlike his admired Green and Bosanquet, Milne expressed his thought in beautifully clear language, which made him an excellent teacher. He was universally liked for his friendly, sanguine temperament and his sympathetic care for his students.

D. D. Raphael

Alan John Mitchell Milne, social and political philosopher: born Marlow, Buckinghamshire 30 April 1922; Lecturer, Queen's University, Belfast 1956-65, Reader 1965-73, Professor of Social Philosophy 1973-75; Professor of Political Theory and Institutions, Durham University 1975-87; married first Pauline Wood (two sons, two daughters; marriage dissolved 1949), 1949 Anita Littlestone (died 1985; two sons, one daughter), 1986 Susan Elkan; died Oxford 24 Mou 1998.



Richard Jaeger

RICHARD JAEGER was known as a forthright arch-conservative Bavarian CSU politician, a man of principle who did not compromise, and a politician to his fingertips. He was prominent among the first generation of post-war German politicians. Elected to the first Bundestag in 1949, he remained a member until 1980.

The Bavarian Party (BP), for decades a significant force in Bavaria, sought to embarrass Jaeger by attempting to make po-litical capital out of the fact that he was born in Berlin rather than Bavaria. However, both his parents were Bavarians and he came from a long line of southern Germans. His father, Dr Heinz Jaeger, was director of the Munich city insurance office. There his son Richard was born. Later the family returned to Munich where Richard attended the prestigious Maximilian Gymnasium.



On matriculation Jaeger studied law at the universities of Munich. Berlin and Bonn. As a Catholic he remained loyal to the Catholic youth organisation and the Catholic stuats' body when others were de-

fecting to the Hitler Youth and Na- tougher sentences for sex offenders tional Socialist Students Corps. He qualified as a lawyer in 1939 only to find himself in the army for the du-

ration of the war. Remarkably, his war service, as artillery NCO in the West and in Russia, did not prevent him from continuing his legal studies. After a brief incarceration as a prisoner of war, he raturned to Munich, gaining his doctorate at Munich University in 1947. He joined the new Christian Social Union (CSU), the Bavarian wing of Christian Democracy, in 1946 and gained entry into the Bavarian civil service. He served as mayor of Eichstätt 1948-49.

From the start of his parliamentary career Jaeger made his mark as a robust exponent of Bavarian interests and conservative values. Among the causes he championed was the re-introduction of the death penalty, more rigorous law enforcement,

and opposition to pornography.

Despite his popularity in conservative circles, his legal mind and his relative youth, Jaeger did not get promotion under Chancellor Adenauer. Perhaps one of his problems was rivalry with Franz Josef Strauss. Both were Bavarians, both were Catholics, both had attended the same school and both had served in the artillery. Two years younger, Strauss had been promoted to officer while Jaeger ended his military career as an officer cadet.

One would have expected that Jaeger's more subdued style and temperament would have found favour with Adenauer rather than that of the more flamboyant Strauss. Jaeger had to be contented with the consolation prize of election as one of the five vice presidents of the Bundestag, an office he held from 1953 to 1965 and 1967 to 1976.

He also served as chairman of the powerful parliamentary defence committee, 1953-65, and as such he had considerable influence on the development of West Germany's new armed forces established in 1955. He was strongly in favour of political control of the armed forces. In this he both supported the Defence Minister, Franz Josef Strauss, and later Kai-Uwe von Hassel. against the military, and sought more power for his committee. He also argued that the German forces should be equipped with nuclear

In 1963 Konrad Adenauer retired and was replaced as head of government by Ludwig Erhard. Jaeger had hopes of a ministry. Firstly, Erhard was also a Bavarian. Secondly, Jaeger supported him on his pro-American stance as against the "Gaullist" position of many Bavarian politicians. Jaeger had

served for many years as President of the German Atlantic Society. His reward came in 1965 when Erhard formed his second ministry and appointed Jaeger Minister of Justice. This was a hollow victory for Jaeger as the government of "rubber lion" Erhard was hrought down in December 1966. He was not included in Kurt Georg Kiesinger's grand coalition of Christian Democrats and Social Democrats. His replacement was the very liberal Social Democrat Gustav Heinemann. Richard Jaeger's last major post came as a surprise when in 1984 he was appointed head of the West German delegation to the UN Human Rights Commission in Geneva.

David Childs

Richard Jaeger, politician: born Berlin 16 February 1913; married (one son, five daughters); died 14 May 1998.

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Phil Hartman

WHEN the actors providing the voices of The Simpsons cartoon series threatened to go on strike earlier this year unless they got hefty pay rises, the news made headlines around the English-speaking world. It gave viewers the chance to put faces to the names they regularly see on the credit sequences and to realise how versatile those performers can be, since they often lend their talents to several characters.

Alongside Nancy Cartwright (Bart Simpson, but also his friend Nelson Munce and Todd Flanders, the neighbour's kid), Dan Castellaneta (Homer, Grampa Simpson, Krusty The Clown, Barney Grumble, Mayor Quimby etc), Hank Azaria (Moe the bartender, Apu the convenience store owner, Chief Wiggum, Superintendent Chalmers and 25 others) and Harry Shearer (Mr Burns, his sycophantic assistant Smithers, Homer's neighbour Ned his friend. Flanders, Principal Skinner, newscaster Kent Brockman and a host of others) and the many celebrity guests (including Elizabeth Taylor as Maggie, and U2 in the 200th episode), Phil

Hi, I'm Troy McClure, you may remember me as the star of \dots

Hartman didn't warrant a huge mention.

Yet Hartman contributed to 49 episodes of the long-running cartoon series. He was the voice of Moses, of Under-Secretary of State Evan Conover, of the fast-talking salesman Lyie Lanley, of Homer's inept lawyer Lionel Hutz and, most famously, portrayed a fading celebrity, Troy McClure, who introduced himself with the immortal: "Hi, I'm Troy McChire, you may remember me as the star of ... " whenever he appeared in yet another infomercial interrupting the Simpson family's compulsive television-watching. There were similarities between the comic actor and his vocal cartoon creation but, considering his late start in the world of showbusiness, Hartman's star was very

much in the ascendant. Born in Brantford, a small town in Ontario, Canada, Hartman followed his parents and seven siblings first to Connecticut and then, in the late Sixties, to Los Angeles. He often entertained schoolfriends with his imper-sonations of John Wayne, John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Johnson, but wouldn't make a career out of this skill until the mid-Seventies. He originally studied graphic design and, when he wasn't working in advertising. created artwork for Crosby, Stills & Nash and other rock acts of the

day.
Theatre workshops offered an outlet and a release for Hartman's acting abilities, and in 1975, he joined the Groundlings, a Los Angeles comedy troupe specialising in improvised sketches. While he was part of that ensemble, he met Paul Reubens, a comedian who would soon fashion a new image for himself as the colourful and outrageous Pee-Wee Herman. The two collaborated on the script for the 1985 film Pee-Wee's Big Adventure, in which Hartman guested alongside

The following year Hartman appeared in Three Amigos (featuring Steve Martin, Chevy Chase and Martin Short) and joined the cast of NBC's Saturday Night Live, American television's number one satirical comedy show. The show had already provided the springboard for talents like John Belushi, Dan Aykroyd and Chevy Chase, who had been part of its repertory cast.

Over the following eight seasons, Hartman's uncanny ability for mimicry came to the fore as he lampooned everyone from Ronald Reagan to Frank Sinatra via Jack Nicholson and the television evangelist Jimmy Swaggart. The election of Bill Clinton to the presidency in 1992 provided Hartman with another chance to shine. His Clinton, complete with sincere, southern vocal inflections, proved so spot-on that the president had no recourse but to congratulate his impersonator. Coincidentally, both played the saxophone too.

From that point, Hartman's career really took off. 'I started doing Clinton and then I was on the cover of TV Guide [America's best-selling listings magazine). I became a household name," he later reflected. "I didn't have to look for work any more. Work came to me. Like a tremendous amount of commercials and voice-

The smarmy delivery of a Hartman character had often heen used to introduce or narrate sketches on Saturday Night Live. In 1990, while fleshing out The Simpsons' rich array of cultural references, high- and lowbrow, the show's creator Matt Groening decided to hire Hartman to important radio announcer. The series Los Angeles, California 28 May 1998.



become the voice of has-been actor Troy McChure.

Having quit Saturday Night Live in 1994, Hartman, who had become a.US citizen, could concentrate on The Simpsons and various small but lucrative appearances in movies such as Coneheads (1993, with Dan Aykroyd), House Guest (1995), Sgt Bilko (1996, with Steve Martin) and Jingle All the Way (the poorly received Arnold Schwarzenegger vehicle of Christmas

By then NBC had found a suitable vehicle for Hartman's talents with the launch of the sitcom NewsRadio, in which he played Bill McNeal, a self-

House of Commons were

LECTURES

never quite delivered the ratings the US channel expected and has not heen shown on British television, possibly hecause the format closely resembles Channel 4's newsroom series Drop the Dead Donkey. Ostensibly an ensemble piece, NewsRadio nevertheless often revolved around Hartman's character and may now be cancelled following his death. Pierre Perrone

Philip Edward Hartmann (Hartman), actor, comedian, impersonator, scripturiter: born Brantford, Ontario 24 September 1948; three times married (one son, one daughter); died

HISTORICAL NOTES

Why did Elizabeth I never marry?

"I WILL never marry," the future Elizabeth I declared at the age of eight, and, to the consternation of her subjects, the Great Queen kept her word. She even promoted the cult of virginity that was to form the substance of her legend.

For four centuries, historians bave speculated as to why Elizabeth never married. In her own day, her decision to remain single was considered absurd and dangerous. A queen needed a husband to make political decisions for her and to organise and lead her military campaigns More important, she needed male heirs to avoid a civil war between rival claimants after her death.

There was no shortage of suitors for the Queen's hand, both English courtiers and foreign princes, and it was confidently expected for the best part of 30 years that Elizabeth would eventually marry one of them. Indeed, although she insisted that she preferred the single state, she kept these suitors in a state of permanent expectation and even lust. This prevarication was a deliberate policy on the Queen's part, since by keeping foreign princes in hope, sometimes for a decade, she kept them friendly when they might

otherwise have made war on her realm. There were, indeed, sound political reasons for her avoiding marriage. The disastrous union of her sister Mary I to Philip II of Spain had imposed an unwelcome foreign influence upon English politics. The English were generally prejudiced against the Queen taking a foreign husband, particularly a Catholic one. Yet if she married an English peer, jealousy might lead to the

formation of dangerous factions at court. There were other, deeper reasons for Elizabeth's reluctance to marry, chief of which, I believe, was her fear of losing her autonomy as Queen. In the 16th century, a sovereign was regarded as holding supreme dominion over the state, while a husband was deemed to hold supreme dominion over his wife. Elizabeth knew that marriage and motherhood would bring some erosion of her power. "I will have but one mistress here and no master," she told the Earl of Leicester, the man she loved more than any other and to whom she was close for over 30 years.

She once pointed out that marriage seemed too uncertain a state for her. She



Queen Elizabeth I (1533-1603)

had seen several unions in her immediate family break down, including that of her own parents.

Some writers, on the flimsiest of evidence, have argued that Elizabeth was frightened or incapable of the sex act, but it is more likely that she feared childbirth. Two of her stepmothers, her grandmother and several acquaintances had died in childbed. Moreover, in pregnancy she was

bound to lose her grip on affairs. Elizabeth's father, Henry VIII, had had her mother, Anne Boleyn, executed for treason and adultery; her stepmother Catherine Howard later suffered the same fate. When Elizabeth was 14 she was all but seduced by Admiral Thomas Seymour, who also went to the block within a year for treason. Witnessing these terrible events at an early age, it has been argued, may have put Elizabeth off marriage.

Elizabeth had to decide her priorities. There was no contraception in those days, and to risk an illicit pregnancy would have jeopardised her already insecure throne. A woman's reputation was paramount, especially that of a queen who bore the title Supreme Governor of the Church of England. Marriage or celibacy were her only choices. Elizabeth was far too intelligent to compromise herself. The choice she made was courageous and revolutionary, and, in the long run, the right one for England.

· From Alison Weir's book Elizabeth the Queen (Cape, £18.99)

GAZETTE

ROYAL **ENGAGEMENTS**

The Duke of Edinburgh, Senior Trustee, attends a meeting of the trustees at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London SE10; as Patron, unveils a plaque to commemorate the founding of the Royal National Institute for Deaf People, London W1; and, as Founder and Chairman of the International Trustees, the Duke of Edinburgh's International Association, gives a reception at Buckingham Palace. The Queen Mother visits Queens' College, Cambridge, to mark the 550th anniversary of its foundation. The Duke of York takes the salute at the Royal Artillery Sunset Ceremony on Horseguards Parade, London SW1. The Princess Royal, President the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, visits Gloucestershire Carers Centre and attends a reception at the Parliament Rooms, Gloucester; opens the new premises of the Haven Trust, Gloucester; and, as President, Riding for the Disabled Association, attends the Maisemore Group 25th Anniversary event at Maise more Riding Centre, Maisemore, Gloucestershire. The Duke of Gloucester, Commissioner, English Heritage, attends the 1998 Annual Commissioner's Tour.

CHANGING OF THE GUARD

The Household Cavalry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 11am; 1st **Battalion Coldstream Guards** mounts the Queen's Guard, at Buckingham Palace, 11.30am, band provided by the Scots Guards.

Amouncements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES &
DEATHS (Births, Adoptions,
Marriages, Deaths, Memorial dding anniversarie services. Wedding anniversari In memoriam) are charged at £6.50 a line (VAT extra).

BIRTHDAYS

tive designer, 1781; John Mr Tony Britton, actor, 74; Mr Edgar Evans, tenor, 86; Mr Michael J. Fox, actor, 37; Mr Geraint Gruffydd, former Director, University of Wales Centre for Advanced Welsh and Celtic Studies, 70; Mr Jeremy Hardie, chairman, W.H. Smith, 60; Sir Peter Heatly, former chairman, Commonwealth Games Federation, 74; Mr Douglas Henderson MP. Minister for Europe, 49; Lord Islwyn, former MP 73; Mr Derek Hunt, chairman, MFI Furniture Group, 59; Sir Roger Hurn, chairman, Smiths Industries, 60; Miss Shella Keith, actress, 78; Mr Peter Kilfoyle MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Office of Public Services, 52; Sir Nicholas Lloyd, former Editor of the Daily Express, 56; Mr Robert McNamara, former US Secretary of ens, novelist, 1870; Sir Wal-Defence, 82; Mr Michael ter Besant, writer and philanthropist, 1901; Edward Mates MP, 64; General Sir Moran, artist, 1901; Ugo Geoffrey Musson, former Betti, playwright and judge, 1953; William Maxwell Adjutant-General, 88; Mrs June O'Dell, director, Aylesbury Vale Community Aitken, first Baron Beaverbrook, 1964, Dame Sybil Healthcare NHS Trust, 69; Mr David Ridgway, ambas-sador to Bolivia, 57, Mr Thorodike, actress, 1976; Alexis Smith (Gladys Smith), Charles Saatchi, advertising actress, 1994. On this day: executive, 55; Mr Peter . the first Book of Common Sanders, former chief exec-Prayer was issued to all dioutive, Commission for Racial ceses in the Church of Eng-Equality, 60; Sir Douglas land, 1549; the French defeated the Austrians at Smith, former chairman, the Battle of Montebello Acas, 66; Vice-Admiral Sir Casteggio, 1800; Alsace-Patrick Symons, former Supreme Allied Commander Lorraine was annexed to Atlantic's Representative in Germany, 1871; the US Europe, 65; Mr David heavyweight boxer James J. Jeffries beat Bob Fitzsim-Troughton, actor, 48; Col John Williams-Wynne, Conmons, of Great Britain, in stable of Harlech Castle, 90; New York, 1899; the London Mr Peter Wilson, chairman Symphony Orchestra gave and chief executive, Gallaits first concert, 1904; Charles Kingsford-Smith her Group, 57. and Charles Ulm became the first to pilot an aircraft

ANNIVERSARIES

Births: Leopold I, Holy Roman emperor, 1640; Peter the Great, Tsar of Russia, 1672; Andrew Ramsay, writer, 1886; Georg Friedrich Grotefend, classical and cuneiform scholar, 1775; George Stephenson, locomo-

wright and consul, 1791; Carl time, 1975. Today is the Otto Ehrenfried Nicolai, Feast Day of St Columba of conductor and composer, Iona, St Ephraem, St Pela-1810; Elizabeth Garrett gia of Antioch, Saints Anderson, physician, 1836; Primus and Felician. St Lady Anne Isabella Ritchie, Richard of Andria and St writer, daughter of W.M. Vincent of Agen. Thackeray, 1837; Walter Weedon Grossmith, comedian and writer, 1853; Sir National Gallery: Marion Henry Hallett Daie, neuro-

Carlisle, "Match of the Day physiologist, 1875; E.M. (ii): Botticelli, Venus and Delafield Œdmée Elizabeth Mars", 1pm. Monica de la Pasture), nov-Tate Gallery: Michael Rickelist, 1890; Cole Albert Porter composer and lyrietts, "Warhol and Emotion: cist, 1893; Robert Cummings boredom", 1pm. British Museum: Nicole (Charles Clarence Robert Orville Main Cummings), Donek, "Jewels of the actor, 1908. Deaths: Jan van Pharaoh", 11.30am. Eyck, painter, buried 1441: National Portrait Gallery: William Lilly, astrologer and Rebecca Lyons, "G.F. Watts and Ellen Terry: Pugmalion publisher of almanacs, 1681: and the image", 1.10pm. Wallace Collection, London Pope Gregory XVI, 1846; George Payne Rainsford W1: Miranda Neave. James, novelist, 1860; Charles John Huffham Dick-"Aspects of French Furni-

ture", 1pm. DINNERS

Inter-Parliamentary Union British Grond Mr David Marshall MP, Chairman, Inter-Parliamentary Union – British Group, hosted a dinner yesterday at One Great George St, London SW1, in honour of a Parliamentary Delegation from the People's Republic of China led by Mr Jiang Chunyun, Vice-Chairman, Standing Committee, National People's Congress.

Lejeune Clinic Mr Dominic Grieve MP was the host at the launch of the Help Campaign for the Lejeune Clinic held yesterday in the Jubilee Room at the House of Commons, London SW1. The clinic, for the care and assessment of Down's children, was launched two years ago at the Hospital of St John and St Elizabeth, London NW8. Among the guests were: Lady Benyon; Lady Picher, Dr S.M.
Altie; Mr Simon Hughes MP, Dr Jame
Le Fann; Miss Ann Widescenbe MP;
Mme Berthe Lejeune, Chairman of
Trustees, Lejeune Chinic, Dr Peter
Doberty, Vice-Chairman of Trustees:
Dr Margaret White, Vice-Chairman of

machi; Mr John Manies MP.

CHURCH APPOINTMENTS

The following appointments have been announced by the Church of England: The Bev Gury Astey, Prior, Society of the Sacred Mission, Vassail Road London: to be NSM Curste, Angel Town St. John the Evangelint Gouthward., Canon Peter Belley, Priest-to-Charge, Bishopston, and Bristol St. Andrews With St. Bartholomew Gristol): to be Team Bectur, Bishopston and St. Andrews (mane ricorus). fastic effocase).
The Ray Victor Barron, Team Rector, Kinson and Rural Deam of Poole (Safebury): to be also Non-rasidentiary Canon of Salisbury Cathadral (same Canon David Bartle, with permission to officiate (Winchester): to be part-time Chaptein, Christehurch Hospital (same

The Rev Nigel Beer, Curate, Bilton St.

The Rev Nigel Beer, Cursie, Billion St John the Evangelist and St Luke (Ripon): to be Team Wear, Moor Allection with special responsibility for Alwoodley St Barnahas trame diocese). The Rev Dr Ian Certer, Vienr, Hindley St Peter (Mannchester): to be Chaplain, Boyal Oidham Hospital (same diocese). The Bev Mary Crameri, Deputy Director, Southern Theological Educational and Training Scheme (Salishory): to be Team Vicar, The Pewsey Team Ministry (same diocese). The Rev John Eley, Producer/Presenter BBC Radio Sulfolk, with permission to officiate (St Edmundsbury and Issue diocese). The Rev Ian Gomerall, Chaplain, Universities of Manchester (Manchester): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Manchester St John Chrysoster V. John Chrystolie (Chaplain, Universities of Manchester (Manchester): to be also Priest-in-Charge, Manchester St John Chrystolie (Victoria Park Issue diocese).

ter S. John Chrysosiam Victoria Park terms diocesed.
The Rev Derek Graeby, Assistant Carste, West Brouwich St Andrew and Christ Charch Lieffield): to be Rector, Newton Heath All Saints (Manchester). The Rev Curistopher Kedey, Curate, Great Crocky St Faith Cliverpool: to be Assistant Carate (Team Vican Tenignalet), Swinton and Pendlebury (Manchester).

The Rev Bedge McCanhor, Curate.

(Manchester). The Rev Brian McConkey, Curate, Blackburn St Gebriel (Blackburn): e Diocesan Youth Officer (same chocess). The Rev Bill Moore, Curate, Hobe Most (Birmingham): to be Vicar,

Mont (Birmingham): to be Vicar, Dosthill St Paul (some diocese). The Bay Domono Wesver, Cursie, Watford St Mary (St Albama): to be Tesm Vicar, Bourne Valley (Salisbury). The Rev Nicholes Wright, Teem Vicar, Worcester South East with special responsibility for Holy Trinity with St Matthew (Worcester): to be Vicar, Inherence with Cookfull and Khurton. Inkherrow with Cookhill and Kington with Dormston (same diocess).

APPOINTMENTS

Mr Ian Alexander QC, to be an Ordinary Bencher of Lincoln's Inn Miss Caroline Banks, to be Director of Consumer Affairs, Office of Fair Trading.

Proceedings were not an abuse of process

DISQUALIFICATION proceedings under section 6 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 would not be stayed as ahuse of process on the basis that disciplinary proceedings had previously been taken against the respondent by the Securities and Futures Authority.

An application by Ronald Allwyn Baker for a stay of proceedings brought against him under section 6 of the Company Directors Disqualification Act 1986 was refused.

On 21 February 1997 the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry issued proceedings against 10 former directors of companies in the Barings Group, including Mr Baker, seeking disqualification orders under section 6 of the 1986 Act. The proceedings arose out of the collapse of the

Barings Group in 1995. Mr Baker had been appointed a director of Baring Brothers & Co Ltd in April 1992, and had been registered as a director by the Securities and Futures Authority ("SFA"). In July 1995 the SFA suspended Mr Baker's registration, and in March 1996 instituted proceedings against him before the SFA Disciplinary Tribunal.

At an early stage of the disqualification hearing, an application was made on behalf of Mr Baker for a stay of the proceedings against him, on the ground that to prosecute those proceedings would infringe the principle of double jeopardy, since he had already successfully resisted the proceedings brought by the SFA in which the same, or substantially the same, charges had been made against him

GASCOIGNE, Gascogne

south-western France. In

TUESDAY LAW REPORT

9 JUNE: 1998

Re Barings plc; Secretary of State for Trade and Industry v Baker and others

Chancery Division (Mr Justice Jonathan Parker) 5 June 1998

Charles Hollander and Jasbir Dhillon (Fox Williams) for Mr Baker, Elizabeth Gloster QC, Molcolm Davis-White and Edmund Nourse (Treasury Solicitor) for the Secretary of State.

Mr Justice Jonathan Parker said that it was clear from Hunter v Chief Constable of the West Midlands Police [1982] AC 529 that the court's inherent jurisdiction to prevent abuse of process to civil proceedings extended to cases where, notwithstanding that the doctrines of res judicata and issue estoppel were inapplicable, the circumstances were such that the issue or prosecution of proceedings would be vexatious or oppressive as amounting to an attempt to relitigate a case which had already in substance been disposed of in ear-

lier proceedings. It was not a prerequisite for the application of that "collateral attack" principle that the decision attacked should have been one of a court of competent jurisdiction.

That was not to say, however, that the status of the pre-

vious decision, and its relationship (if any) with the subsequent proceedings, were not important factors in deciding whether the collateral attack principle applied in a particu-

In considering whether the principle applied in the particular circumstances of the present case, the submission made on Mr Baker's behalf, that in substance the SFA was the Secretary of State in another guise with the consequence that in commencing disqualification proceedings the Secretary of State could be said to be taking a second hite at the cherry, must be rejected.

The SFA was a company limited by guarantee, and its disciplinary jurisdiction over its members derived from its rules: it was founded in contract, not in statute, and in that respect differed from the court's jurisdiction under the 1986 Act. Moreover, withdrawal of registration by the SFA only affected an individual's ability to work for companies registered with the SFA and operating in the financial services sector, whereas a disqualification order under the 1986 Act prevented an individual from being concerned in the management of any company during the period of disqualification.

To hold that the Secretary of State was, in effect, bound by the decisions of the SFA Tribunals would be to sanction the imposition of a restriction on her powers and duties under the 1986 Act which would be inconsistent both with the express terms and the underlying purpose of the Act.

Kate O'Hanlon, Barrister

WORDS

and Gascoine are all according to the OED, WILLIAM HARTSTON obsolete forms of Gascon: Gascoigne n. (obsolete) a native of Gascony in

1608 there were said to be character; a braggart, 800 Gascoignes at Dieppe. boaster". Smollett in 1771 From that original described some unfortumeaning, the word came nate character as: "a peato mean: "anyone who cock in pride, in grimace resembles a Gascon in a baboon, in courage a vainglorious fiction.

hind, in conceit a Gascoon". The word was also used for a kind of wine from Gascovy. As long ago as 1550, Freiris of Berwik wrote of "ane gallone full of Gascone wine".

The derived word "Gasconade" is a verb or noun meaning: (to indulge in) extravagant boasting or

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across the Pacific (Califor-

ma to Brisbane, Australia),

1928; the Norwegian forces

1940; the USS George Wash-

surrendered to Germany,

ington, the first ballistic-

missile submarine was

the proceedings of the

launched, 1959; in Britain,



Career women turned mothers may talk about nappies for a while, but before long their work interests will surface and they may make valuable contacts

Where networking is child's play

You make your first friends in the schoolyard. Many women are now

finding their first business contacts here, too. By Kathy Harvey

sk most professional women why they struggle back to work after childbirth and they nearly always mention fear of falling off the job ladder. Yes, earning enough to pay off the mortgage normally comes first, but insecurity about future status in the world of work backs not far behind.

Tracey Posner realised the future would be uncertain when she left her job as a director with a PR and advertising firm after ber first son Joshua, now nine, was born. She planned to build up her own homebased business gradually with new clients. But the contract that gave her business a springboard into a lits members' magazine. I now do a versation with another mum, Tricia much bigger league came sooner than expected - not via a professional contact, but through another Mum on maternity leave. "I got to know her socially through trips to the local toddlers' gym class our children attended and she recommended me to the manager of Optiva UK, a firm which makes sonic toothbrushes. It is now one of my best clients, and has been worth around £25,000 a year to my business," Tracey explains.

The network of counections which brought Tracey her first hig solo hreak is oot as unlikely as it sounds. As more professional women in their thirties take time off to have babies, the chance of meeting potential business contacts through children has increased. Catherine Fitzsimmons, the manager from Optiva, had no reserva-

after receiving a personal recommendation from a friend. "Women seem to underestimate what they all be talking about while they are on maternity leave and can be their own worst enemies in playing down their expertise. The Mum who introduced me to Traceg, Kate Syms, had watched ber organising the

local parent-toddler group and was impressed to see how much press lot more work through friends' recommendations, and funnily enough the network is mainly female." It would be unrealistic and embarrassing to loiter round the playgroup in search of your next

promotion. However, the hreak that many women take to look after younger children can give them the breathing space to find a new direction, a luxury not on offer to many men. Jo Stewart was a software engineer with IBM until she moved out to rural Gloucestershire with her husband to run a family-owned. hotel and have children. "I kept in touch with colleagues at IBM through Christmas cards, but despite this I was lost to them in all but memory," she says. "I was surprised to find that I felt a huge void after leaving the husiness world of pregnant women or new mothers.

tions about offering Tracey work London to come here. In some sense I felt I had lost a lot of the respect I had worked so hard to build up over the years." When the family batel massold after the birth of her third child. Jo began to look round for a new career. She had an idea for putting recipes onto a computerised database for businesses but no experience of the mass catering industry. "I was collecting my son from the local school one rainy afternoon," attention she got for its work and for she recalls, "when I struck up a con-Bidmead, who had once been in the contract-catering industry before her own family arrived. We got together and between us we have forged a successful business selling recipe software."

The business grew to the point where it has now been sold to Granada, who employ Jo and Tricia to produce the database for them. Jo admits, however, that she would probably never have turned into an entrepreneur unless having children had forced a change of career path. "I have proved that you can start all over again in something new. But although I altered course I never stopped thinking of myself as someone who worked." Many of her contacts were, she says, made while she was chatting with other

home to everyone setting up their to panic about the future when you own business, but some experts are just learning to cope with life believe women are better at it than men. Jo Bond of Coutts Countilled. which specialises in helping people to find new careers, says women are often more open-minded about how they will find future work. "When we ask people to make lists of everyone who might form part of their network women are more likely to mention people who might be categorised as your own immediate contacts, but project was going to proceed and it less important than themselves, as well as those who are higher up the career ladder. It could be the secretary in their office or the managing director of a local firm. Men tend to focus more on those people they consider to be in positions of influence, and are more likely to compartmentalise their contacts."

Networking is, she says, about gathering information that might be useful to you, and you will get nowhere if you decide in advance how you are going to judge someone.
"When I worked for myself I got one of my most lucrative contracts with a large blue-chip company through a lady I knew who was a temporary secretary in the organisation."

The theme is echoed by women like Tracey Posner, who have used their experience as mothers to further their own career. She argues. says Catherine. "It made no odds to

The need to network is drummed that there is no need to be pushy, or with children. "There's nothing wroug in mending some time talking about nappies with other Mums for a while, and your brain certainly won't atrophy just because you do that. At the same time you will gravitate towards other mothers to let their children play together with similar interests. Don't forget that you may not get work through they might introduce you to someone else. I think many women network unconsciously, but you do have to be sensitive. Being friendly and talking about what interests you is always the best way forward."

The days also seem to be long gone when you had to don a suit and pretend you worked from an office block in order to appear credible. The increase in outsourcing, independent consultancy and laptop computers have all combined to turn home working into a common occurrence. When Tracey met up with Catherine Fitzsimmons to discuss working for Optiva UK she suggested a hotel venue for the meeting. She was told not to bother. "I couldn't see what difference it would make, as long as the conversation was conducted in a professional manner,"

me where the meeting took place, and we have been working together successfully ever since." She still meets up with Kate, the mum who introduced her to Tracey Posner in the first place, and who went back to her job as a head bunter for the energy industry after ber own maternity leave. Their new mum network is still in place.

There is a downside of course. One mother who decided to remain nameless told how a business contact with a daughter in the same class hardly spoke to ber and refused once the business relationship went sour. "We disagreed over how a was fairly easy to end the professional connection. The only problem was meeting each day at the school run. As I had made the contact in a social setting originally it was rather embarrassing to find myself facing an icy glare at 8.45am every morning. On reflection, I may have rushed in too soon to make the most of a personal contact without considering the fall-out."

Perhaps it is no surprise to discover that playground and office politics follow similar lines. But at least it is consoling to know that you don't have to make endless trips back to the office to visit old colleagues in order to give yourself a fighting chance of a better career. Men might even start envying the opportunities that motherhood provides. It's one club they don't have

JOYS OF MODERN

we

1. VELCRO SANDALS BY HUNTER DAVIES,

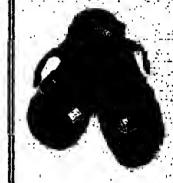
FOR the past 20 years I haven't worn shoes. Where do I go, that I need shoes? I wore trainers, always plain white, whether going to the Groucho Club, while living m London, or walking up Grasmoor, while living in Lakeland. In really nasty weather, I might put on some wellies, but mainly lived in trainers.

I swore by them: how comfy, how casual, brilliant for walking, far better than those stupid walking boots which are so heavy.

The only criticism I would accept about trainers was the pong. So what, I said. Then about five years ago, I began to get problems. Nothing to do with wearing trainers, certainly not. A spot of arthritis which resulted in a nasty growth, some sort of bunion thing on my big toe. Trainers became hell to wear, wellies impossible.

Then I saw an advert in a mail-order catalogue for a new sort of walking sandal Only £27, they said, half the retail price. I bought a pair They were so marvellous, I bought another two.

I have lived in walking



sandals for the past five years. They have these Velcro straps so I can alter them to give my bunion a bit of space. But they also happen to be enormously comfortable, with their shaped soles, and enormously strong, tough enough for any Lakeland walk. I can go over rocks and through bogs, easy peasy, and not get soaked or bring back half the bog with me.

Two years ago I went up Table Mountain in Cape Town in my sandals. I didn't mean to. We turned up for the cable car but the queue was three hours, I said bugger this, I'm not waiting, and my wife agreed to walk with me. We got up in two bours, no problems.

I adore my sandals. They are perfect for my needs. If only we could find such ideal supports for all our practical and spiritual needs as we travel through life. I can well understand why trainers are now so passé. Ugh. Nasty smelly things. Was I really in love with them for so long?

Brian is not a fan of Blair. 'Same as the Tories,' he says

Continued from page 1 some clubs where women who go

out Sunday lunch time are known as "pudding-burners". The strippers aren't in this week. Last week only 12 people turned out for the stripper. Nobody I speak to thinks stripping

is demeaning to women. "Do you get £80 for 20 minutes' work then?" they ask me. Money is empowerment. They know this in their bones. These are the men, after all, who are being asked to work for a minimum wage of £3.60. "I wouldn't get out of bed for £3.60 an hour. I'd rather get a shotgun and rob a bank every few months," says a man who I suspect would never rob a bank in his life.

On the whole though, the men I talk to do not feel marginalised by the media because, as they say, they select their own entertainment. They only buy newspapers once or twice a week because of an economy drive, and then only for the football. The older guys talk of the terrible hardships of the Thirties, when to be unemployed was to be half-starved. Now, they say, since the mines and steel industry have gone, half the men in working men's clubs don't actually work. It's not a crime any more. There are jobs but they are "women's jobs. Part-time. You go down the job centre and you see jobs m supermarkets or as care assistants. There is a lot of that."

Over and over again they tell me that women are taking over So what will they do? "Go fishing." laughs an out-of-work foundry worker. "It's about time women did something," one guy explains. "The roles are reversed now, aren't they? I read in my wife's magazine that young women down South can get £20,000 a year." No one here needs a sociological explanation of the effects of globalisation, the running-down of industry and the rise of the service sector. They live it every day. The old men talk of their children who relocate, who move far away to Barnsley, even Halifax for a job.

Brian, a huge tattooed man, is not a fan of Tony Blair. Nor are many of his fellow drinkers. "Same as the Tories," they keep on saying. The minimum wage is not a side issue for these men, it is the only issue. After all, many of them describe themselves as "retired undefeated". At first I didn't understand - they look too young to be retired, but these are the men who went through the miners' strike and took the redundancy payments. "Some of them," say Keith Chapman, "the miners with brains got as much as £40,000-£60,000", though many slipped through the net. Other men ned disabilities and give me a

wink when I ask what kind. A couple of them act hard and tell



Working men drink together as always. In Sheffield they're resigned to their fate Tom Pilston

me that you only get married so that your wife does everything. They do "nothing indoors and never will". Afterwards their mates tell me that they are too frightened to admit that they do the housework. But these guys are adapting. Their wives work, so they pick up the kids from school. "I put the pots in the dishwasher and works shifts so I've got to do it," says

is the men over 40 who find it hard to take but even they are re-thinking. While the middle classes talk of downsizing and stress, how they'd like to spend more time with their families, these men have been forced to reconsider the role of work in their lives.

"You can't live in the past," says press the hutton," they remark a former milkman for 35 years. "Td proudly. "My wife's a nurse, she rather get up and hoover than go out to work at 6 o'clock. I can get up now a 38-year-old forklift truck driver. It and go out there," he gestures to the



surrounding hills. "You may think

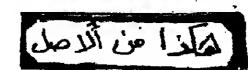
I'm daft but it is beautiful... "There will never be full employment in this country, we know that," says his older friend. Like many men, he now sees more of his grandchildren than he ever did of his own kids. A pensioner called Dennis fetches his poems for me. They are about his eternal love for his wife and how everyone thought that after the war they would build a bet-

accept that the roles between men and women have changed. Why do we assume that the motor of social change always comes from the South rather than the North? Some of these men have wives with three jobs who are learning to drive, while they have no work and no car. "The ones that can't change, they're going to end up in the shit." These men are more flexible than anyone gives them credit for, yet it is in their attitude to work itself that I find the residual definitions of masculinity that seem to be holding them back. Men's work is hard physical labour. They would rather work all day in a damp pit than work on a till in a supermarket. What they want is the physical proximity of other men, the camaraderie involved in moving parts of the earth. That is what they get here in the club. They drink together as if to remind themselves that they once worked together. They still eat the food that working men eat. They like their pork butchers. "There's nowt that comes out of a pig that you can't sell except its squeal." They were pleased about BSE because it brought down the price of a steak. "It's always been there, even 45 years ago I used to see the farmers shoot the wobbly cows." Who will look after these men? "We look after each other," they keep

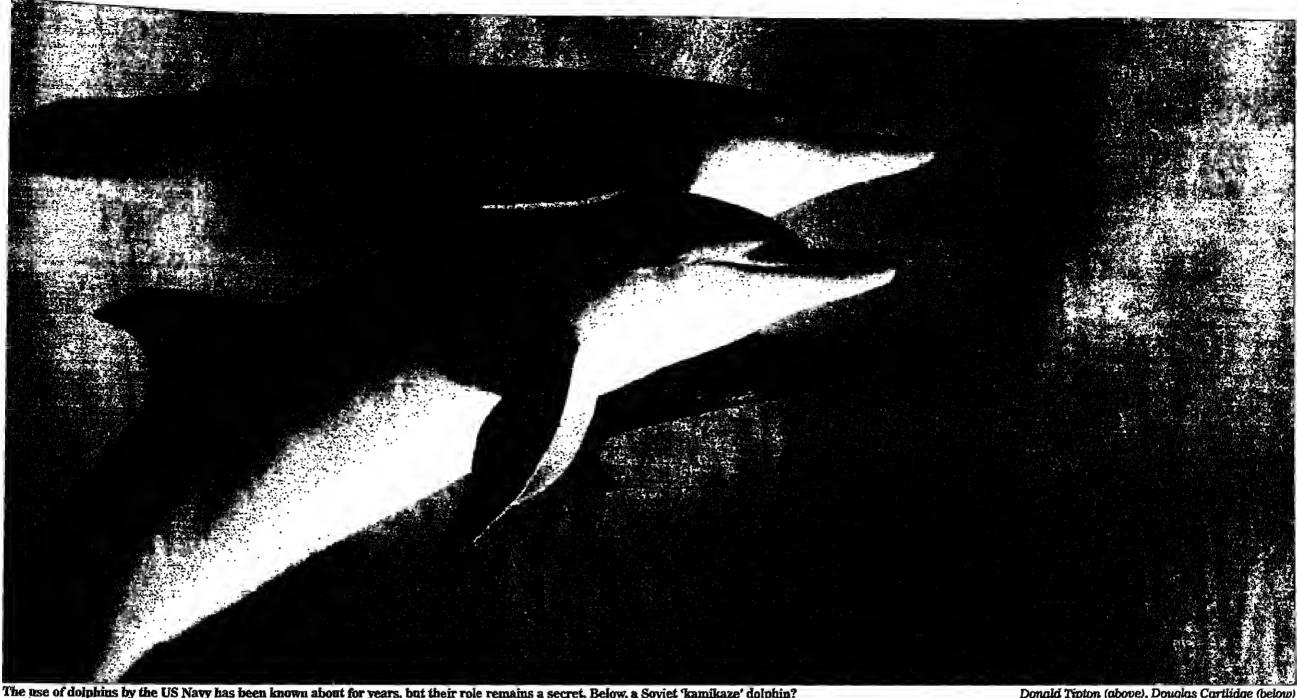
I do not meet a soul who does not saying, as if saying it enough will make it true. Without the work that fostered the solidarity, they have to rely on increasingly fragmented social networks. That night they could see a Phil Collins tribute band and later in the month watch the England v Romania match and get a full silver service five-course dinner for £12 a head. That's good value. They, like everyone else these days, are forced to define themselves through what they consume.

"We don't get many career women in here, Suzanne," says Keith, yet no one I meet uses the phrase working class. "What we get here is a good class of person."

But does the rest of the world care? For no one talks anymore about good and had or even class, they talk of demographics, of aspiration, of lifestyle, of consumer pro-files. In the midst of all this, what happens to working men whose lives are not the ones they thought they would have, whose lives are not loved but lost? "You've got to move on" was a phrase I heard repeated many times. But fully formed new identities don't just drop out of the sky. While the rest of the world moves on, they watch and wonder and clutch their pints as if they, too, might be taken away, put just out of their reach like so many other of their expectations.



Aren't they cute? Except when they're trying to blow you up...



Donald Tipton (above), Douglas Cartlidge (below

Soviet special forces diver is parachuted from extreme altitude into sensitive waters. His secret mission is to ese high-tech sonar equipment to locate a piece of valuable military hardware that has accidentally splashed down in the e In the event of meeting an enemy diver, this Hero of the at Sevastopol on the Black Sea. People is equipped with a weapon that will inject his adversary with 3,000psi of carbon dioxide and literally blow him up. Sounds like a now that both are surplus to military scene from a re-make of Thunderball? Well all this really happened,

And the second section of

 $\underline{z} = z^{2\eta z^{-1/22\eta}}$

operative was a dolphin. The controversial use of dolphins and other sea mammals by the US Navy has been known about for a oumber of years, although the precise extent and nature of their activities is still shrouded in military secrecy. But details of the parallel Soviet developments in the field are only now starting to emerge, and they tell a literally fantastic Cold War story. They also beg the question as to whether the Americans have

and it gets better. The highly trained

been doing similar things. The idea of training airborne dolphins, for example, seems incredible. But conservation campaigners have heard the tale first-hand from the former Soviet naval personnel who trained the animals to "jump" from heights of up to three kilometres to avoid detection. Other dolphin "soldiers" were pitched directly from belicopters 50 ft above the sea.

"If I hadn't seen the evidence myself I just wouldn't have believed it," Bizarre as it seems, dolphin 'soldiers' were parachuted from helicopters above the sea by the Soviet Navy and were the US Navy's deadly agents in the Gulf. By John Davison

says Doug Cartlidge, a dolphin consultant and front-line campaigner with the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS). He has home to the once-proud Dolphin Division, to advise trainers on alternative uses for their expertise requirement. While being shown around the unit's museum he saw a full-size model of a dolphin wearing a parachute harness.

"I was amazed at how open they were about the whole thing. But they are desperate for help," says Doug, who once ran the dolphinarium at Windsor Safari Park but has since campaigned for the release of captive dolphins. He was even taken on exercise with the few remaining military-trained animals.

The unit is now part of the independent Ukrainian navy, but there are no funds to run it and a special ship used to transport the animals was recently commandeered by the Russian Navy. The unit has sold off most of its animals to make ends meet. It has also gone into business with a private company to capture more than 30 Black Sea dolphins from the wild for sale to dolphinariums in several countries.

The most controversial of its past activities was the training of "killer dolphins" for use against enemy divers. The US has always strenu-



ously denied that its animals have been used in this way, and even animal rights campaigners have been sceptical about the possibility of doing it. A dolphin is so sensitive to distress signals from divers, they say, that even if it were possible to get an animal to unwittingly kill once, it would not do the same thing again. The secrets of Sevastopol, however, show how the Soviets devised a way of doing just this.

A known use for dolphins by both

superpowers was in guarding naval installations. If an underwater intruder was located then they would "report back" to their handlers, acting as an effective early warning system. The Soviet "guards", however, would carry a titanium clamp on the nose, which could be attached to any diver they found by simply nudging them. On the clamp was a device, the size of a ping-pong ball, capable of injecting a high-pressure charge of CO2 into the diver's body. This was

activated remotely if a subsequent search failed to locate the enemy.

It has also been reported that Soviet dolphins were trained to carry out "kamikaze" missions. Explosives were supposedly strapped to their backs and they were sent out to blow up enemy submarines. One estimate said that a total of about 2,000 animals had died on such operations. Doug was told that a total of 300 animals had been "tested to destruction' in the Black Sea alone.

The Dolphin Division was established in 1966, following the mysterious sinking of the Black Sea fleet's flagship in Sevastopol harbour. include search and recovery following the test firing of navy missiles and torpedoes. Often these could not be detected using conventional sonar equipment - a dolphin's superior system can penetrate up to a metre under the sea bed.

It seems that Doug is not the only one who finds this fascinating. Last month the WDCS detected an attempt to back into its computers by the Pentagon. The US Navy had areviously asked for an advance copy of a report into the trade in Black Sea bottlenose dolphins, which used some of Doug's research. The Americans' own Marine Mammal Program, also once a top-secret affair, has become more visible since the end of the Cold War. Animal rights campaigners there, however, are convinced that the full story has still to be told. One former civilian trainer from the unit claims that killer dolphins have been used by the US, in a wonderfully named "swimmer nullificatioo program".

In 1994 the navy announced that it was to pension off up to 30 of its dolphins, for sale to dolphinariums and leisure parks. There has since been a growing clamour for the animals to be released into the wild and for the whole operation to be closed

down. The issue has been the subject of numerous legal actions and in the process quite a lot of information has come to light.

The US programme, known as NRAD, is based at San Diego, California, and was established in 1959 with a single dolphin for the purpose of conducting scientific research grown to 123 animals, including 20 sea hons and several beluga and false killer whales used for recovering test-fire hardware from depths of up to 500 ft. At its beight, the programme was said to cost \$8m a year.

The first recorded use of dolphins oo guard duty was in Vietnam in 1970. The only other "operational deployment" that has been admitted involved five dolphins used to protect navy ships in the Persian Gulf for eight months in 1987-1988 during the Iran-Iraq war. The pavy has denied that dolphing were used during the Gulf war, but it says the animals have been used for mine-hunting. The most recent allegation of US

military use came in February this year, after the mysterious deaths of 22 dolphins whose bodies were washed up on the French coast. All had a neat, fist-sized hole on the underside of their necks. One theory was that the animals had been part of the American naval operation sending warships to the Gulf at the time of threatened military action against Iraq, and had been killed after "deserting", so their mission would not be discovered.

Who knows? Given the bizarre history of this form of underwater warfare, anything seems possible.

The war was over, but the nightmares were just beginning

REVELATIONS

WE WERE never taught about the war at school. Because my father's business friends in Liverpool were mostly Jewish, I actually believed that the war was being fought to save the Jews. I couldn't have been more

When the war was over we went to the Philharmonic in Liverpool. We got out of the train at Exchange station, then walked in a crocodile to the Philharmonic Hall in Hope Street and saw the films the troops had taken when they entered

It was the most extraordinary, Belsen. numbing experience - those little mummified skeletons which were just being pushed up by a machine, to be carted into pits ... I had night-

mares for a long time afterwards. At 14 I was thrown out of school for writing rude rhymes, and went away to ballet school at Tring. Every time my parents came down in the car for the weekend there were rows between them, secure that, any brother and I had taken it in turns opers in them, or German prisoners. Then the silence.

to stay in rather than leave them on their own, to try and stop the shouting - no physical violence, but verbal horrors ...

Because of the way my parents were, I had to sleep with my mother, my brother slept with my father. None of them refers to the Holocaust

Two things used to annoy my mother tremendously: I had a cough, a psychological cough, and I had nightmares, and she'd get cross. I'd be moaning and rolling about, and she'd say, "For God's sake Beryl, keep still".

I think - and talk - about death a lot, and I encourage my children to person but thousands who joined in. talk about death. That must have something to do with all those years ago, with seeing the Belsen films.

always just making sense of everything. That was the reason I started writing: to make sense of what was happening in my own home. So I fixed the first six novels more or less around my own childhood. One or two of them have got Italian prisBERYL BAINBRIDGE, PHILHARMONIC HALL, LIVERPOOL, 1946

or the Jews. Ive been in some terrible arguments with people about those years, talking about the horror of the whole thing and how people could do it and why. My argument was - still is - that it's so much easier to blame one man. It wasn't just one

Had I come from a happy, jolly home, maybe I'd have been able to come home and say, "Hullo, isn't it As far as my writing went, I was awfal and sad?" But like any trauma-and in my case I'm sure it was a trauma - I began to merge my own background into the Holocaust, to use my past instead of writing about the Holocaust. It was my own particular nightmare: the voices in the night, the banging and shouting, and



It seemed to me that those films were like some image from nowhere, because nobody afterwards or in the following years, ever said: "Wasn't it terrible what the Germans did?" It was all shuffled aside. Nobody went on and on about it. It ground, except for those white skeletons being piled up, the bodies.

your own time, at an impressionable the Americans got there quicker, so age, becomes part of you. If you hap- it's medieval, with sloping roofs ... pen to turn into a writer, those are We got off the train and felt this terthe themes you hit on, so that you rible weight - of something terribly will always be writing about conflict wrong. The camps were 12 or 15 and oppression. It doesn't have to be miles away, so that the ashes, the torture, or killing people, but it has smoke, must have stuck to the roofs to have death in it, that's important. of all those bouses. It goes very deep, so deep that you're not so aware of it. You turn, in the end, more towards subjects that are to do with death.

My first book had a death in it, and the second one. The third or fourth had a hostage situation in it. Young Adolf was pointing out what might make people behave oddly.

Two years ago I went by train with

oever insisted.

Cracow is untouched. The Ger-Anything that you live through in mans were about to blow it up, but

I don't read Jewish literature any more. I haven't read camp literature for years. I had many books on the camps, and about Adolf and the rise of fascism, and I read them and read them until I had children ing machines and cars and trainer of my own. After that I found myself shoes, what people do to each other unable to open a book on it.

I'm now published in Germany. and I went to Frankfurt Book Fair at pressing buttons and doing it all began to fade into the back- my editor, Alice Thomas Ellis, to last year, but I'm uneasy about Ger- and that's a terrifying thought.

Poland to do some lectures, and we mans because of my generation. ended up in Cracow, which is half an Every time I gave a reading of the hour from Auschwitz. I never got last book, Every Man For Himself, there: they wouldn't let me go, they somebody - young, old or middlethought it would upset me, I was des- aged - would get up and say, aproperate to go there. I'm furious I pos of my book, Young Adolf, "What do you think about the Germans?" They're all terribly anxious to talk about it. But I used to look at elderly ladies in the cafés, with grandchildren ...

One doesn't grow away from the influence of those Belsen films, because it never stops. You might have a period in your life, perhaps when you're bringing up children, when you're occupied solely with that. It's only afterwards, when you give some thought to the rest of the world, that you realise that in spite of the heart transplants, longer life and the so-called poor having washhas not progressed in the slightest: we're just getting better at doing it,

Most artists find success by carving out a niche in one medium. Others won't be pigeonholed so easily. By Andrew G Marshall

Divide and rule with the genre benders

postcard? No, it's Luke Sutherland. With the media breaking down into ever more niche markets it is harder for new artists to achieve mainstream success; however, if they can work a variety of different media there is more chance of being heard. Sutherland. 28, is a prime example, considering himself both a musician and a writer, His band, Long Fin Killie, is a cult success, with John Peel placing one of its tracks in his top 10 favourite songs of the year. Now be has written Jelly Roll, a muscular novel about men in crisis set against the backdrop of a jazz band touring Scotland. The book is scheduled to become a film next year.

"Tve been writing for longer than I've been playing," Sutherland says. "I was in bands from the age of 18 and sending stories to magazines, but the music took off first, I started writing Jelly Roll in 1990 but had to put it away until Long Fin Killie had a van accident touring Sweden. I was thrown out of a window and broke a collarbone and shoulder blade and had a partially collapsed lung. Recuperating last year, I finshed the novel.

"Books and music help each other along. I'm surprised that more of this has not happened. The only other person I know of who has had stories to tell, I could never find tha voice. Until, on my way to a lecture as a student, I went into the unithrough a short story by Janice Galloway, a Scottish writer, and the language blew me away. When I listen to songs, I lock into the sound of the music, not the lyrics, and reading this book I found myself responding to the rhythm of the words rather than the story. It was a quietly life-affirming moment."

Sutherland is difficult to categorise. "I'm adopted, my parents were white, and I bave Afro-American ancestry. I was born in London, moved to Humberside and then to the Orkney Islands. I've also lived on the Borders and then Perthshire. I don't feel I belong anywhere, but I

get a kick out of that." Another artist making waves on more than one front is Jamie Di Salvio, who started as a film-maker and DJ but now, as Bran Van 3000, has a Top 40 single, "Drinking in LA", and is touring Europe with Massive Attack. "While others are virtuoso musicians because of a particular

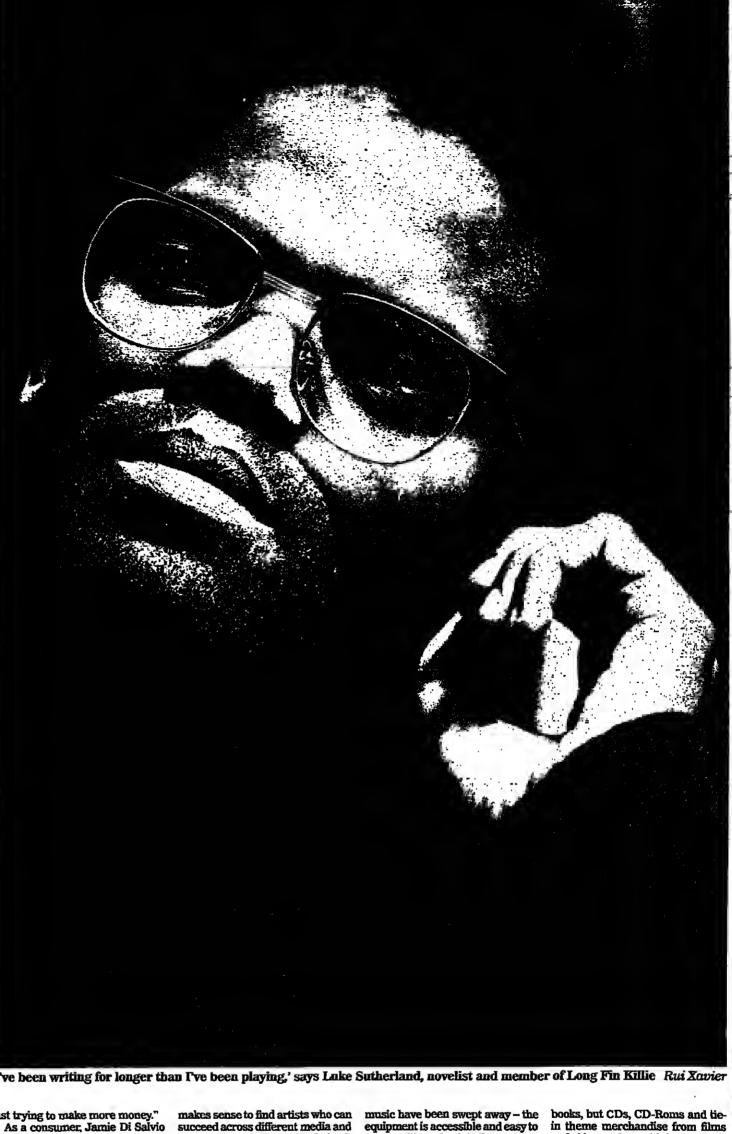
s it a book, is a it CD, a music love for the cello, I do music as a way of exploring my creativity," says Di Salvio. "All my media have a common denominator; they are all attempts at getting to know myself better. In many ways the different areas complement each other, the songs I have written are narrative based because I have been working on film scripts. I'm also playing with notions for a graphic novel."

Di Salvio decided to take the

plunge into music during a stint in New York, where he was directing a jazz video: "It gave me \$10,000 in cash and I hopped on the subway down to 42nd Street and bought some studio equipment." The result is the CD Glee, whose style ranges from trip hop to ZZ Top: "I impose no walls on media and none on musical genres either." Jamie Di Salvio, who is the same age as Sutherland, believes his generation does not recognise boundaries: "If I'd been around in the Fifties I'd never have been able to make a record. I'm not a singer or a player, so I wouldn't have performed in night-clubs and an A&R person would not have signed me, so technology has allowed me to make a record. There are people who have done great things by focusing on one thing their whole life and finally painting the Sistine Chapel, or whatever their medium, but my medium is all media."

It is easy to forget how we used both out at the same time is Nick to pigeonhole creative people. When Cave. Although I always felt I had Jane Asher wrote her first cake book no one was interested. "In those days actresses did not write; it was not the done thing," says Asher. "Noversity hookshop and flicked body liked my ideas - they thought there were plenty of cake books. It was a real struggle to get it published; it took seven or eight attempts. How things have changed actresses are always being asked to write something because they know a name will sell." Jane Asher is now a novelist too. Her second. The Question, is a well-plotted story of betrayal and revenge. When Sutherland is asked

whether be wants to be both a musician and a writer, he makes a face. "I have an instinctive reaction against someone being known for one thing and branching out into something else, with the assumption that the something else will be of less artistic merit - not a first choice." He is honest enough to admit that he can be prejudiced against other multi-talented artists "It's good as long as the quality is maintained. I must admit when I hear that a comedian like David Baddiel has written a book, I'm guilty of thinking they are



Twe been writing for longer than I've been playing,' says Luke Sutherland, novelist and member of Long Fin Killie Rui Xavier

just trying to make more money As a consumer, Jamie Di Salvio does not care about the background of the performers: "William S Burroughs was not a musician but I like his records, and there are moments now where non-musicians are starting to reach your heart with their records. I have the wild card. Although other people have studied jazz standards at Berkeley, where is the song that is getting my soul?"

Although the costs of creating might have been brought down by new technology, marketing budgets have needed to rise dramatically in order to attract our attention. So it though technical barriers to film and

succeed across different media and spread the costs. Sutherland's book carries an ad for his new music project, Bows, and the record company is promoting the book on its website. "Excellence itself does not necessarily find an audience. Things which help get a book out to a wider public are increasingly important," says John Sadler, publisher of Anchor Books, Transworld's new literary publishing list. However he believes Sutherland is unique: "Lyrics are a short event and to go from that to a narrative book is a huge jump. Aluse - writing a book is the same as it was 100 years ago."

Jelly Roll is being hyped as hav-ing more sex than A White Merc with Fins, more drugs than Trainspotting and more rock'n'roll than The Commitments. With the children of the multimedia age reaching adulthood, Sntherland could well be the vanguard of a new wave of artists who simply defy categorisation. The trend will be accentuated when the new breed of Ultra-Super bookstores arrives here from the US. They stock not just

and videos - along with food and coffee. So soon we'll be able to buy the latest products from Luke Sutherland and Bran Van 2000 under one roof, while refreshing ourselves with one of Jane Asher's cakes.

Jelly Roll' by Luke Sutherland is published by Anchor at £6.99, and his musical project, Bows, releases its CD in the autumn. The Question' by Jane Asher is published by HarperCollins at £16.99. Bran Van 3000's CD, 'Glee', is out on 15 June on Capitol

Wilde words, mild music

RENAISSANCE PEOPLE: ARTISTIC : ALL-ROUNDERS

Versatile rock gods LEONARD COHEN (Beautiful Losers) and Bob Dylan (Torontu-(a) both produced acclaimed volumes of writing, while last year Ray Davies used characters from Kinks songs as the basis for a novel. As well as more than a dozen dark murderous albums with the Birth day Party and the Bad Seeds. Nick Cave has written a novel, And the Ass Sow the Angel. Captain Beefheart, the man with the vocal range of four and a half octaves, was a child art prodigy until he met Frank Zappa at high school. Since giving up his Magic Band, the Captain has returned to art, exhibiting widely under his real name, Don Van Vliet



Musical novelists ANTHONY BURGESS: The writer of A Clockwork Orange and Earthly Powers included a setting of Joyce's Ulysses among his compositions. A recent CD of his guitar music had critics reaching for the ear-plugs. The only novelist to cover himself in musical glory has been Paul Bowies His first novel, The Sheltering Sky, didn't appear until 1949, by which time he had already written most of the 150 compositions, including two operas, that make up his ocuvre. He also helped to engineer the legendary meeting between Rolling Stone Brian Jones and the Pan Pipes of Joujouka.



Serious comics

BEN ELTON: writing novels and plays has increasingly displaced comedy as his core activity - no bad thing if his just-finished BBC series was anything to go by. He is joined in the league of comedians turned writers by Ardal O'Hanlon, David Baddiel and Rob Newman, along



Oh, and then there's... Bruce Dickinson, Iron Maiden singer former member of the British fencing team and author of a science fantasy novel... Albert Camus, goaleeper and intellectual... Damien Hirst, artist, video director, restaurateur ... Naomi Campbell, model and "novelist" ... and the template, Brian Eno, singer, songwriter, composer, producer, avant-garde entrepreneur, performance artist, conceptual artist, thinker, seer,

The real super furry animals

POP

JAMES RAMPTON

THE WOMBLES REGENCY ROOMS, LONDON

THE LATE 1990s - where everything comes with inbuilt inverted commas - is exactly the right time for a comeback by The Wombles. The audience of twentysomething hipsters at the ultra-fashionable Regency Rooms variety show in London last week obviously thought so. They accorded the super furry animals' first live show for 24 years a standing ovation - before they'd even played a note. As trendsetters wallow in the

1970s retro-chic of everything from Saturday Night Fever to platform shoes, you sometimes wonder why dedicated followers of fashion can't latch on to



rather than reheating a 1970s stew with ironic flavouring. For all that, The Wombles did

put on a storming show when they topped the bill last week. The show had up until that point been like a 1970s warmup. Singer Jackie Chune had donned a Bacofoil jumpsuit and matching shoes to croon the timeless Carpenters num-

ber, "Calling Occupants of Interplanetary Craft", and a naff comedian called Frankie Tan had impersonated such 1970s icons as Stingray, Swapshop, Top Cat and The Double Deckers. All that was missing was a song from Leo Sayer (he'd been at the Regency Rooms a couple of weeks earlier). The kitsch host of the

evening, Lenny Beige, gave

Batt as Orinoco, The Wombles proceeded, as they say in the neaviest rock circles, to tear up the joint. Which was all the more amazing given that on a sweltering night they were dressed not only in rodent costumes but hats and scarves too. After bringing the house down, there was excitable talk of The Wombles playing the

The Wombles a suitably

tongue-in-cheek hilling: "You

need a band to come back and

show the kids how it's really

done. They influenced a gen-

eration, and we've been recy-

cling ever since. I'm gonna

introduce you to one of the

greatest bands ever ... " With

a build-up like that, are you sur-

Led by the ageless Mike

prised the crowd went wild?

spiritual home of all cult acts, Glastonbury. Anything Rolf "The Wombling Song" is re-

CLASSICAL

STEPHEN JOHNSON

BACH CHOIR. ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL, LONDON

CHOOSING THE right words, said one composer, is half the battle. If so, Robert Walker fought that half of the battle well. From the long and, as Walker admits, "patchy" letter Oscar Wilde wrote from prison to his lover Alfred Douglas, he con-trived a fine, moving text, part narrative, part inspired sermon, packed with choice Wildean epigrams: "He who would lead a Christ-like life must be entirely and absolutely himself. Most people are other people; their life is mimicry, their passions a quotation."

The musical result, De Profundis, for baritone, chorus

and orchestra, suggests - to a point - a composer determined to be entirely and absolutely himself. Walker turns his back on fashionable "isms". Much of De Profundis isn't so much

post-modern as pre-modern. If the choral writing (elegant and obviously good to sing) echoes anyone, it is the young Gustav Holst. In the final bars comes a quotation from Elgar's Dream of Gerontius; De Profundis was commissioned by the Bach Choir's new musical director, David Hill, to accompany Elgar's masterpiece.

At the opening, the soloist speaks Wilde's account of his ordeal at Clapham Junction, handcuffed on the platform in front of jeering crowds - the orchestra simply accompanying then brassily evoking the mock-ing laughter. Essentially it's an old device, but effective enough here - all credit to the baritone David Wilson-Johnson for delivering it with such conviction. If De Profundis had all been

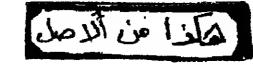
on this level it could have delivered quite a punch. But all too often the music seems ancillary to the words, sweetly generalised rather than rising to the heights of Wilde's visionary passion and bitterness. However the performance, especially from the Bach Choir, was full of feeling and with exemplary clarity of enunciation.

The same qualities were apparent in the choral singing throughout The Dream of Gerontius. The much derided Demons' Chorus had spirit and enough acrid colouring to suggest that these really were hellish hordes ready to devour lost souls, even if they were wearing Victorian dinner suits.

This was David Hill's first concert as director of the Bach Choir, and it is obvious that he has made his mark. Good playing, too, from the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, as in De Profundis - Hill isn't just a choral conductor. Both parts of Gerontius were well shaped. with powerful climaxes and the requisite sense of serene undercurrent in part two.

Adrian Thompson was per-

suasive in the title role - not searingly powerful, perhaps, but warmly human and espe-cially touching in moments of quiet intensity. Wilson-Johnson, reincarnated as Elgar's Priest and Angel of the Agony, was on stirring form. Jean Rigby's Angel was disappointing; I was aware of the sound of the voice, much less of musical phrasing. Still, it was a performance to remind you what a great work this is. Irredeemably English? Its first triumph came in Dosseldorf - not at the Birmingham premiere. We may cherish Elgar as a national institution, but it wasn't always us who discovered his work



ARTISTIC
LL-ROUNDERS

It's life, but not as we know it

Lucian Freud has been called the world's greatest living realist painter. But whose reality is he painting? Tom Lubbock isn't sure, but he likes what he sees

Red Sofa" is various kinds of picture, go up to a picture expecting to but a portrait is not obviously one of them. It is, I suppose, a nude. The figure is a naked woman, face nearly averted, limbs akimbo, posed over this piece of furniture in a most peculiar way, almost upside down, one hand placed on the floor, one foot over the back of the sofa. Or, if you look for an everyday life reading of this pose it can only be a sex-position, though whether auto-erotic or with off-stage partner isn't clear. Or again, there are inklings of grand narrative: imagine away the sofa and the room, and the woman becomes one of those noble, plunging figures from a Christian apocalypse, like something out Rubens' "Fall of the Damned". But he doesn't often bring

"Portrait on a Red Sofa" is one of the 27 works in Lucian Freud: Some New Paintings, which opened last week at the Tate Gallery. The idea itself is heart and This is a small show of Freud's pictures from the last five years or so, most of which - as the publicity elegantly phrases it - have "passed into" private collections. The Tate doesn't normally do this sort of display. But since Freud isn't represented by a British gallery who might put his recent work on public show, the Tate has taken on the job. In other words, this is public service curating. It as elsis that they're being painted. It's sumes, I guess rightly, that there is . a modern practice, after all the traa public who will want, will need to ditional ways of doing humans - narknow the latest news from Lucian

it off like this,

Settle Francisco Para Provincia Ag

music

reud What news is it? Nothing revolutionary. Freud hasn't found startlingly new models, as he did at the start of the Nineties with Leigh Bowery and a very large woman known as Big Sue. The paint has got

LUCIAN FREUD'S "Portrait on a even more dotty, so that when you enjoy some brushwork, you often find a granular moon-surface has accumulated, a heavy deposit which doesn't appear to correspond to what's depicted, just registers a much-corrected bit of anatomy. But there are some fantastic bits of painting, especially of dogs.

What sort of news do you expect from Freud, though? His business is reality, everyone says so. He is "the greatest living realist painter" (Robert Hughes), or even "the only living realist painter" (John Russell). But if you like the sound of that, remember that reality is admitted into his pictures on very strict conditions. It must, nearly always, be happening in his studio. And in a factual way, the main news here is that Freud's studio hasn't changed a lot from what we knew before. It still has its bare boards and discoloured walls, still that worn, leather sofa and plain la line. I we are still coming in to sit, stand or lie around, clothed or naked, to be painted. The dog - the old greyhound -

that by no means old genre, life- in Attic Doorway" for instance, mon sense answer either that these awkward - suggesting that the inpainting Life-painting means paint you're not meant to ask what's she scenes are simply studio construc- cident has some inconvenient ac- bodiment, mortality, sheer human ing people without any motive other doing up there with no clothes on, tions, artistic arrangements of flesh, tuality, independent of the artist's presence. But at the same time, to its oddity, and sometimes it bethan the desire to paint people, her legs dangling out of a trapdoor dog, prop and background. No, they whim Yet his scenes don't look at all where all you can say about the modratives, allegories, everyday scenes -had come to feel phoney. It's a radical reduction. Freud has made this genre his own, but it's worth remembering how odd its conven-

It involves not asking certain obvious questions - as with several of



Freud operates by the rules of the pictures here. Looking at "Girly our remeant to fall back on the com- and friends). His compositions are apart from all social excrescences a studio, but a deliberately equipped and the Bateman Sisters": what real life. And they do. Freud doesn't that they're taken from the everyare those two women doing bare on a mattress with that sleeping dog? Or with "Sunny Morning - Eight Legs": what's he doing on that bed, limbs akimbo, arm embracing the same dog, and why are there two more male legs poking out from under the bed? At least, you're not

you get are bodies, arranged. But Freud's studio is always an actual, particular place. His sitters are identifiable individuals (family meant to think up a story behind it. On the other hand, I don't think

work like that other life-painter day lives of these individuals. Euan Uglow; Uglow is quite up-front There's no pretence that this place about his studio constructions. In his is anything but that strange nopictures, the studio is reduced to a man's-land between fiction and ac-. blank, neutral setting. The models tuality, an artist's studio. are pretty well anonymised. What

This has a point, of course, or Freud has given it one. It becomes a form of concentration and isolation. a way of getting hold of and exposing the essential human thing, as

- a way of focusing on flesh, emthose stubborn, realistic questions at the top of the wall? Or with "Pluto" want to come over as some sort of like slices of life. There's no pretence about what's going on here can of the looking and the painting can't never really be held at bay. Straining between inarticulate drama and the set-ups. Or it might be better to implausible verité. Freud's scenes take on the aspect of solemn play. What are these people doing? They've come into his studio to take part in a weird existential charade. "Who are you being, darling?" "I'm being stark human presence -

isn't it obvious?" The studio itself

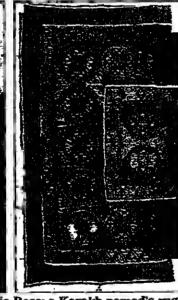
then dramatises this play. It's not just

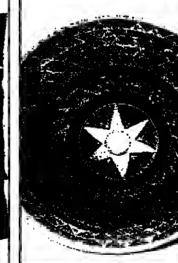
theatre of bleakness.

The charade continues, oblivious comes simply comic. The intensity overcome the preposterousness of say that Freud has fixed his art with tensions that much of the time pull it apart, but sometimes come wonderfully together - images which. whatever questions you put to them. have an answer that prove themselves real every way. I come back to "Portrait On A Red Sofa". That is the good news here.









Left to right: Michael Ayrton's Arsenal painting, work by Claudia Bose; a Kazakh nomad's rug; and a bowl by Mary Rich

Arsenal and Villa in the picture

ART **MARKET**

THE MOST glitzy event of the artmarket year - the Grosvenor House Art and Antiques Fair - abandoned its datalines four years ago, which means that, among the many Old Masters and antique silver, you can now see a selection of 20th century works such as Michael Ayrton's painting of Arsenal vs Aston Villa at Highbury in 1952, price £36,000 on Peter Nahum's stand. Arsenal won

the match 3-1. The fair, in Park Lane, west London, opens on Thursday, June 11 (11am-5pm) until June 20, other weekunys (11am-opin) and the is £15 tral London - where Bose's earlier ends (11am-opin). Entry fee is £15 weekdays (11am-Spm) and on week-

chuding handbook (£22 in advance), £8 for a single ticket during the last two hours of each day (without a handbook it's still £8), and children under 12 with an adult get in free (0171-495 8743).

AT THE other end of the price range, with no reserve price over £100, an auction of 390 works from the studio of 34-year-old German painter Claudia Bose, who graduated from the Royal Academy two years ago. She is raising money for her forthcoming sabbatical in

Eighty per cent of estimates are £20-£150. The auction is tomorrow (7pm), and the paintings are on view until then, at the Proud Gallery, 5 Buckingham Street, Strand, cen-

(£13 in advance), £25 for a double in- £3,000. Her portrait of a Jewish man, Golders Green, 30 by 22ins, oil on paper, is estimated at £100 (reserve £40) in the sale (0171-839

> THE FIRST-EVER fair dedicated to textiles - rapidly rising in value opens with 50 dealers this week in London, the market's hub.

Among textiles for sale is a mid-20th century embroidered cotton and other lustres. The bowis, rangwall hanging, 6ft by 4ft, from a Kazakh nomad's yurt (hut) on the borders of Siberia, where the Kazakhs are again herding their yaks and camels after fleeing to Mongolia from the Russians. It is £1,000 at the stand of the Kew dealer Dennis Woodman (0161-878 8182).

The Hali International Antique Carpet and Textile Art Fair is at Olympia 2, Thursday-Monday,

for a single including bandbook solo show realised prices of over entry £5 (0171-710 2135). The adjacent Olympia Fine Art and Antiques Fair is until Sunday (0171-370

> POTTER Mary Rich, trained by David Leach in the early Sixties, has potted full-time in Cornwall for the past 36 years. Her porcelain bowls, which show Middle Eastern influence, are glazed and fired three times. She applies liquid bright gold ing from 12-20in, £140-£350, together with a selection of her bottles and pots and porcelain by Emmanuel Cooper and Mary Vigor, are in Perspectives in Porcelain, at the Devon Guild of Craftsmen, Riverside Mill Bovey Tracey, until Sunday (10am-5.30pm seven days a week). Inquiries (01626-832223).

When art is a dangerous ride back to childhood

THE INDEPENDENT COLLECTOR

LUCY WOOD'S artworks can kill and maim. They are found objects playground climbing-frames con-demned as unsafe. She picks them up in hired flat-bed trucks that she drives herself.

Spruced up and gloss-painted, they look harmless enough - like ethereal, drawing-board designs. But, whenever they are put on show, attendants mount guard to stop children - and adults - from climbing on them. A glance at the list of gennine casualties, displayed alongside, is usually enough to scare them off: "Fatality, head and spine injuries, damaged testicles, concussion, fracture, open fracture, fractured wrist and elbow, fractured arm and wrist,

injured shin and knee, laceration ..." Wood signs indemnity agreements with the donors, local authorities, promising that the dangerous playthings will never again be played on. Contractors who remove them from playgrounds are happy to let her drive off with them for nothing. And safety organ-isations have helped her to compile casualty statistics. But she is unpopular with manufacturers, who refuse to tell her the whereabouts of newly-condemned equipment.

Charles Saatchi bought for £3,000 Wood's early work, Can't Play, Won't Play! - a trampoline with a sheet of glass where the canvas should be. That work led her to seek other, for-JOHN WINDSOR | bidden objects that seduce the view- has a collection of condemned



Lucy Wood, with 'War Games'

Kalpesh Lathigra

er into wanting to use them. Con-frames and a roundabout. But she demned children's climbing-frames inserts strips of glass into them, to emphasise the danger.

Wood, 29, a graduate of Camberwell College, London, says: "Tm playing psychological games with adults whose competitiveness probably dates back to the days when they played on such frames. Now, they are faced with a dilemma - 'Oh, but it's dangerous'. It's a shock that makes them confront their competitiveness as adults. Some of them step back like children and look panic-stricken."

She first clapped eyes on the tank - now entitled War Games - on a bleak council estate in Romford. "All you could see was this tank on too of a hill, seemingly blasting the tower blocks. I thought to myself, What on earth were those designers thinking of? What has happened to the softness of childhood? No wonder some children feel aggressive."

In her south London studio she

has not yet found a conical "witch's fitted the concept, ready-made. She hat" swing. This weighed a ton. Yet gangs of children could lift it off its ball-pivot and crush themselves - or pull the swing to one side and release it to hit a bystander. The swings were destroyed in the Seventies.

Wood has exhibited at the South London and the Tannery galleries and at Spacex in Exeter. This year's Whitechapel Open showed her Fotal Attraction, a car-shaped climbingframe condemned for trapping children. The car is for sale at £3,000, the tank costs £6,000, a rocket-shaped frame, Open Fracture, is £4,500 and Spun Off, a roundabout, is £6,000.

Her dangerous gym equipment is at the East International show of 25 young artists at the Norwich School of Art and Design, 13 July-5 September (01603 610561). Spun Off is at Alice, an exhibition of childhood at the Corner House, Manchester, 17 July-23 August (0161-228 7621).

JOHN WINDSOR

Whistleblowers are often ostracised and the stress can cause severe illness, from which many never recover. By Roger Dobson



Alison Taylor: The real problem was the stress you were under. It affected my health considerably and I think once you have that kind of chronic damage, you never recover

Sick to death of morals

manager in the NHS. Then she hlew the whistle on overspending, lost her job, and descended into such a spiral of chronic ill health that she is now suing her former employers for the stress she suffered.

Whistleblower Alison Taylor, who put the spotlight on years of child abuse in North Wales, also became physically ill after she was sacked. while another social worker who complained about problems in her local authority has been unable to work for more than three years, after suffering a nervous break-

Workers who report abuse, bullying and bad practice not only run the risk of being ostracised by fellow workers, victimised by managers, suspended and sacked, they can also suffer serious ill health.

Years of depression, anxiety, panic attacks and low self-esteem are common among those who have given up almost everything to raise the alarm, according to Dr Geoffrey Hunt, author of a new book on whistleblowing published today. They are also more likely to commit suicide and experience higher rates of disease, ranging from colitis to

Despite the popular image of the whistleblower as a folk hero, the reality is that it can be a deeply traumatic time for those social workers and others who want to pick up the pieces and carry on with their life.

"The whistleblower is caught in the middle - a hero to the public, and a troublemaker, even a deviant, to the organisation, and that takes its toll on their mental and physical health." says Dr Hunt, editor of Whistleblowing in the Social Services and director of the European

of the 200 whistleblowers who belong to the pressure group Freedom to Care, which be also co-ordinates, have suffered ill bealth as a consequence of what they did.

that whistlehlowing affects health. When people are put under that kind of stress in highly charged atmospheres it can cause all kinds of illness," he says. "Severe depressinn is pretty

common, and we have people who have been diagnosed as having post traumatic stress disorder and who are receiving treatment for it. People lose weight, have panic attacks, and suffer with insomnia. We know, too, that the very high stress levels they experience are also predictors of physical disease," he says.

The health problems in whistleblowers such as Alison Taylor and Betty Millar are caused both by the stress of their situation, and the personal repercussions of their action, which often alienate them from people who were nnce colleagues and friends. Whistleblowing is still regarded by fellow workers and employers as sneaking or telling lies, and as evidence of disloyalty. And it is being forced out of the group that puts the most stress nn whistleblowers, says Dr Jill Wilkinson, a psychologist at the University of

Surrey. "The need to belong is important for self-esteem and mental health. If it is a mnral decision to blow the whistle rather than one of career enhancement or revenge, then it is going to lead to a conflict. We like to be members of groups, which give us crucial social support, which is

BETTY MILLAR was once a Centre for Professional Ethics at the itself one of the most important inhealthy and well-paid computer University of East London.

The professional Ethics at the itself one of the most important inwards them. They are challenging similar problems and resigned and the only one to break out, to comsix months, on half pay for the fol-He says that a large proportion stressful situations," she said.

And social scientist Dr Keith Macdonald says that the pressure can become intense when the whistleblower goes against conformity: "People like doctors, social workers and police officers who go "We now have plenty of evidence against the culture of these groups find themselves in highly stressed

lose everything, the group support, career, job and so on."

Betty Millar traces her ill health back to when she was working in an NHS trust and was becoming increasingly concerned about an overspend that was going on.

"I raised my concerns with internal audit, but they didn't do any-

gave evidence at the tribunal and on the same day I was given my redundancy notice I was told that management saw me as the enemy and wanted to keep me quiet.

"I didn't realise at the time what it was doing to me. People tell me I have changed. I have become more withdrawn. I cancel social things, I didn't go to a friend's wedding, for instance. I have been treated for depression and I have difficulty in getting motivated. I get very tired and every day it's like there is a battle going on inside me.

"You try to be positive and to keep going but it is very hard hecause it has such a major effect on your life. I have gone from having a very responsible job, and I loved my work very much, to working part-time and my salary is a third of what it was. I don't know if I will ever he able to work full-time again.

"Until all this happened I was bealthy and happy and enjoying life. I did what I thought I was being paid to do, and I have lost everything. I took the trust to an industrial tribunal and they made a settlement out of court. I am now taking legal action against them for the stress that they caused me."

Former social worker Alison Taylor, now a novelist, also suffered ill health when she blew the whistle on child abuse in North Wales.

"I was sacked because I refused to ignore persistent and widespread allegations about the abuse of children in care. It was a time in my life that had a profound effect on my health," she says. "I made myself unacceptable to

constructive dismissal and won. I labelled as a disruptive and deviant personality, just as children in care are labelled.

"The real health problem was the every day, every week and every month. There was the suspension, the uncertainty of it all, and knowing you had done nothing wrong but that the people who were the abusers were still out there unaf-

"At the time I was the sole wage earner, so financially it was a pretty stressful and traumatic prospect. My son was then 10 and my daughter still at university and there was a mortgage. I realised things were going to get bad and it affected my bealth considerably and once you have that kind of chronic damage, I think you never recover from it.

"I have an arthritic condition, which is something to do with the immune system, and it affects the joints and the muscles. I suffer from very painful colitis which is triggered by stressful situations, and my insomnia has got worse.

worker I used to get a churning of the stomach when I saw somebody who I knew was an abuser. Ten years on, I still suffer from that conditioning. When I saw those same faces at the North Wales Abuse Trihunal, I had the same feeling.

When I was working as a social

Another social worker, who raised concerns about the way her report on the poor quality of care a mother was providing was dealt with, describes how her life was turned upside down three years ago.

"I believe I suffered a nervous breakdown due to management's employers and colleagues, some of mishandling of the situation. As a re-

the establishment and they suddenly then took the trust to a tribunal for mit professional suicide and I was lowing six months, and I received no pay at all for the last six months she says.

"One weekend I could go on no longer. I knew I could not cope with enormous stress you were under another day at work, and I collapsed at home on a Sunday as I faced the prospect of work the next day. I have not been to work since. I felt I was either intimidated, patronised or hribed to take early retirement on the grounds of ill

health." There are concerns that the longterm impact of whistleblowing on the health of those who have the courage to take action may deter

others from doing the same. Most worrying, given the apparent scale of the abuse problem in Britain, the book reports research among social workers which shows that many believe it has become more difficult for them to complain. Nearly eight out of 10 also want changes in the law to give more protection for whistleblowers.

While Britain's whistleblowers run the risks of dismissal, discrimination and ill health, their counterparts in America have enjoyed formal federal protection since 1989 and in some states victimisation of those who complain has been made

Whistleblowers, as Dr Hunt points out, are mostly motivated by wanting to put right something that they saw as being wrong. The tragedy is that only abusers prosper when the treatment of whistlehlowers deters others who want to speak out.

Whistleblowing in the Social Services' edited by Geoffrey Hunt, Arnold, £15.99, is published today.

GREAT WHISTLEBLOWERS OF OUR TIME



situations where people who were





Clive Ponting, Sarah Tisdall and Helen Zeitlin

Senior civil servant Clive Ponting appeared in court in 1985 accused of breaking the Official Secrets Act by passing data about the sinking of the Beigrano to MP Tam Dalyell. He was acquitted and is now a lecturer and writer in Wales.

Foreign Office clerk Sarah Tisdall was jailed in 1984 for leaking a secret document about the arrival of cruise missiles. She admitted copying it while in a minister's office.

Former MI5 officer Cathy Lassiter in 1985 leaked informatinn about the agency tactics against left-wing activists and CND to a television docu-

Dr Helen Zeitlin, a consultant haematologist in Bromsgrove, left the NHS in 1990 after highlighting sbortages of nurses. She now lives in mid Wales.

mentary crew. She left MI5 -

whereabouts now not known.

scientist at Leeds General In-

firmary, lost his job after re-

vealing scientific fraud in 1989.

Dr Chris Chapman, a senior

Peter Rayner lost his job at British Rail in 1991 after warning about safety.

He was chief nperating manager on London Midland and said that privatisation might affect safety.

VITAL **SIGNS**

BY JEREMY LAURANCE



MORE than half the population are ignorant of me of the most basic rules of first aid - to call an ambulance immediately if someone has a cardiac arrest.

A survey carried out for the British Heart Foundation found three-quarters believed that mouth-tomouth resuscitation and heart massage could alone save a patient's life and many said that was what they would do first. The foundation last week launched a £1m appeal for defibrillators - machines that deliver an electric

shock which is necessary to re-start the heart. Mouth-tomouth and heart massage can keep the patient's blood oxygenated until the defibrillator arrives but it cannot restart the heart.

MANY couples seeking fertility treatment consult the league tables published by the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority, which give pregnancy and live hirth rate for each test tube baby clinic. But the information may be less useful than it seems. Experts who applied a new statistical technique to the data found only five of the 52 clin ics could be confidently ranked in the top quarter and nnly one in the bottom

quarter. They say in the British Medical Journal that the high degree of uncertainty about the rankings suggests they should not be taken too seriously. The finding does not bode well for the Government's plans to include death rates in hospital league tables from next OcA NEW medicine for high statement: "As patient wellblood pressure and angina being is of highest priority was withdrawn from sale to Roche, the company has around the world vesterday preferred to voluntarily because of concern about withdraw the compound the way it intersets with from all markets." nther drugs. Manufacturers Roche Products Ltd volun-

tarily decided to stop selling

The company said in a

THE number of suicides in Posicor, which was launched last year and is the Irish Republic increased marketed in 38 countries. by 14 per cent last year to a including Britsin. total of 433 - and included Roche decided the comeight children between the plex precautions needed to ages of eight and 14, accordavoid the drug interactions ing to figures released yescould not guarantee that patients would not be affected.

Most of the deaths were among the young and mid-

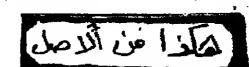
dle-aged, and the vast majority, 355, were men. Earlier this year, a government-appointed task force that investigated the growing number of suicides recommended better training and education for doctors and health

professionals in recognising and treating those at risk and urged improved psychoingical counselling in schools.

LESS than half of children do the recommended

amount of exercise to stay fit and healthy, according to a survey published today. Children should spend at least 30 minutes a day and ideally seven hours a week in physical activity, but one in five does less than twn bours a week

The survey of 2,000 parents and their children carried out for Norwich Uninn Healthcare found that eight out of 10 parents think that physical exercise is as important as school work, but two in three believe children are less fit today than when they grew up.



Roger Dobson

Post-coital contraception can reduce unwanted pregnancies. But are there other health risks attached? By Heather Welford

Warning after the night before

elen, from Newcastle, is 18 and currently in the middle of her Alevels. Two years ago, she had unprotected sex. "It was a mistake -I wouldn't let it happen these days. I knew I could get pills from the GP to prevent a pregnancy. He pre-scribed them, but he really glared at me and asked why on earth we hadn't used contraception. He made me feel like a little slapper."

It's experiences like these - not uncommon, according to health workers - that act as a disincentive to younger women seeking emergency contraception, "post-coital" contraception, or PC4 to give it its medical term.

Incorrectly tagged "the morningafter pill" by the media - in reality two lots of tablets are taken 12 hours apart, up to 72 hours after sex - the treatment is only available with a doctor's prescription. That could change if campaigners suc-ceed in making it available over the pharmacy counter.

Currently, say the campaigners, a programme in operation in Washington State in the US demonstrates that pharmacists can be given the appropriate training. On-Thursday, the Birth Control Trust rural areas may have nothing at all. hosts a meeting at the House of Tongue, a LibDem MP who also has 30 years' work experience in family planning. "Anything that helps says they have up to 60 women askus reduce the appalling teenage pregnancy rate is worth considering," said Dr Tongue. She points out that with 9,000 pregnancies last year among under 16s, the UK has one of the highest rates in Europe.

Certainly, the pharmacists are in favour. Spokesperson for the Royal Pharmaceutical Society, Beverley Parkin, said the professional body could work on protocols for confidentiality, privacy, and GP referral. "Pharmacies are accessible when other sources of belp aren't," Parkin said.

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Yet Schering Health Care, manufacturers of the only product currently licensed for use as post-coital contraception, are reluctant to sanction its use off-prescription. "We've got no immediate plans to make an application for this," said Carole Graham, a spokesperson. "The issue is not as simple as some campaigners think. We have no data to support its safety outside medical control. The issue of liability – who is legally responsible if there is a claim for serious sideeffects - has not been resolved."

However, the consensus among doctors is that PC4 is safe, said Ann Furedi of the Birth Control Trust. "Schering are dragging their heels about this. The main contra-indication is with women who have current focal migraine, as there's a risk of stroke, but there's no evidence of harm otherwise, and no evi-dence that when it doesn't work, the foetus is damaged. In fact, the biggest risk is it's not always effective, so it couldn't replace regular contraception."

According to figures from the Trust, 99 per cent of women who take emergency contraception won't become pregnant - but the figure drops to 75 per cent when sex has taken place mid-cycle, at or around ovulation. Anyone taking emergency contraception needs to know where they can discuss longer-term alternatives.

But teenagers complain that young people's advice centres often preferred to the GP or the family planning clinic - are not open frequently enough. Newcastle's Streetwise, for example, has only one evening opening a week. "It's mainly open when we're at school," said Helen. "And a friend of mine was told to come back in a couple of days when the doctor would be there - but by then it would have been too late." Smaller towns and

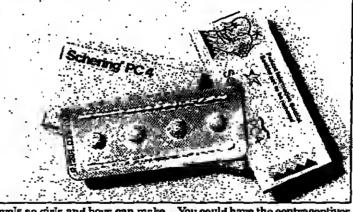
It's not just teenagers who might Commons opened by Dr Jenny need emergency contraception, either Sarah Raynor, a senior nurse at London's Margaret Pyke Centre, ing for emergency contraception on Monday mornings, and the majority of them are between 20 and 35. At Margaret Pyke, however, they don't have to be seen by a doctor, ty in pharmacies, as long as women "Here, we've noticed a large mcrease in the uptake of PC4 in the last three years," says Sarah Raynor. "We have appropriately qualified and trained family planning nurses working to protocols validated by our local NHS Trust. So they can issue emergency contraception to clients within the guidelines, and ensure confidentiality and information on longer-

term contraception methods." fessor John Guillebaud of the Department of Family Planning and Reproductive Health at University College, London, would like to see ers given complete freedom to "Nurses can provide the necessary empathy, privacy and counselling more easily than pharmacists. Pd



Ignorance is a factor in many teenage pregnancies. PC4s, below, are currently available on prescription only

had privacy, if there were protocols for the way PC4 is issued, if women had a user-friendly leaflet with the product, and there was adequate follow-up contraception." He's sceptical of the Royal Pharmaceutical Society's claim that 90 per cent of pharmacies can offer a "quiet area" for private consultation "most of the chemist's shops I go into don't look suitable for this," he says. Leontia McLaughlan from Nurses are, say some experts, in Airdrie's peer training programme an ideal position to issue PC4. Pro-outside Glasgow, which trains young people to go into schools, clubs and colleges to teach sexual health, said teenagers are still embarrassed and under-confident school nurses, midwives and oth- about contraception. While she supports easier availability of conprescribe it. "There are 300,000 traception, she doesn't see it as the Diana Mansour, honorary secretary nurses in the UK, far more than doctors or pharmacists," he said ries from embarrassed teens about class and Gynaecologists' Faculty going into the chemist's for condoms, and coming out with a pack of paper hankies instead." She felt lifestyle and health issues here. also support the idea of availabili- it was important to raise confidence. Some teenagers are risk-takers. know when they're most likely to



levels so girls and boys can make

an informed choice about sex. "Greater availability of PC4 would be a move forward," said Dr of Family Planning, "but it's only scratching the surface. There are

You could have the contraceptives hanging from trees and they still wouldn't use them."

She says that it's not until the first pregnancy scare that some teens are propelled into considering contraception, "I'd like to see much more effective health education – girls still have a poor idea of their own fertility, and don't

get pregnant. Social deprivation's a factor, too, and low self-esteem. Some girls want to get pregnant. It's what they feel they're born to."

Campaigning groups from the other end of the spectrum claim that extending the availability of emergency contraception will bring with it health risks and an increase in casual sex. "In our view, this isn't contraception, as it works by preventing implantation after fertilisation," said Josephine Quintavalle from the group Comment on Reproductive Ethics. Women don't always understand this. We're also concerned that it may have as yet undetermined effects on women's health.

"They've got a right to their moral views," said Ann Furedi, "but we feel they're dressing up a moral argument inside an erroneous medical one. Emergency contraception is safe - a lot safer than many other things our society is quite happy to have on sale

'I'd hate to think of a teenager facing the red tape I did'

CAROL, a 33-year-old secretary from Scotland, had to resort to post-coital contraception after an accident with a condom.

Rather than risk an unwanted pregnancy, Carol and her long-term partner decided she should seek emergency contraception.

"Luckily I was aware that emergency contraception can be taken up to 72 hours after unprotected sex. As I was not working the day after the next, a Friday, I felt sure I would be able to pick up a prescription from Accident and Emergency.

It wasn't that easy. Her first call was the A&E department of her local hospital where she was told that, as it was not a bank holiday, no assistance could be provided and she should contact her GP Bnt there, she was told that there were no appointments available and she should try the family planning clinic. "The session had finished. Although the clinic was open for a full day on Monday, it was only open for a part of Friday."
Fortunately, the woman at the

clinic was helpful and contacted the hospital, which still refused to help. The clinic then contacted Carol's GP and an appointment was secured for the end of evening surgery. It had been a six-hour trek.

Carol totally supports the move to make the morning-after pill, PC4, available from pharmacists: "The lack of assistance I received was disturbing: I would hate to think of a teenager facing the red tape I did."

IMOGEN was a single. 23-yearold medical student when she found herself in need of emergency contraception.

She had spent a drunken evening ont, and ended up going to bed with one of her friends. "My first concern was unwanted pregnancy. Even though we may not have had penetrative sex, I couldn't take the risk." At her local family planning

clinic, she had to wait for two hours for an appointment with a nurse to register, then there was another wait before she could see the doctor. "The appointment with the doctor was very awkward, as I could understand everything she was writing down: UPI (unprotected sexual intercourse) with a CMP (casual male partner).

Imogen admits: "I was a little ashamed, hut I resented the bullying tone of both the nurse and the doctor - surely they should have been glad that I wasn't going to risk an unwanted pregnancy."

Imogen believes that the pill shouldn't become available over the counter from pharmacists. "It is important that a girl see someone she can talk to. Perhaps a solution would be to allow nurses to prescribe PC4. The morning-after pill should be easily available, but girls should be well-informed before they take it."

Interviews by Sally Chatterton

Why mobiles could be the Rolls Royce of disease

BRITAIN ON THE COUCH



JAMES

If microwaving can bake raw potatoes, what would you expect it to do to the neurones in your skull?

I was unable to get a moment's 'you should expect trouble. peace from the incessant mobile phone chatter. "Okay, so you tell Jan to tell Terry that the meeting's on Friday ... sorry, on Friday ... no, tell Jan and Terry it's on Friday ... hello? hello?" Tring, tring, "No, I was saying you should ring Jan ... and so on, ad nauseam.

Until recently the strategy that a good friend of mine used to deal with this irritant was simply to ask the source to move, in a firm and direct manner. But very soon he will implement a new approach. Each morning he rushes to see if the postman has brought his new toy, es a high-pitched squeal in the ear when pointed at a phone user

My main worry about mobile phones, however, is not noise. It is that they may damage the brain, perhaps promoting brain cancer. As memory loss and headaches, and

BAVING RARE access to a first-forethought and with scientific reclass seat on a train the other day, search priorities driven by profit,

It was, for example, easy for the tobacco industry to get away with deliberately raising nicotine levels in their products knowing that they will cause addiction and cancer And was it altogether surprising that, after endlessly recycling sheep's brains containing scrapie, BSE broke out in cows? Or, after pouring organophosphates into the soil, that most of the population seems permanently under the weather, with weakened immune systems?

So you should not be surprised if microwaving the brain with a mobile turns out to be not a good idea. a mobile phone zapper which caus- If microwaving can bake raw potatoes, what would you expect it to do to the neurones in your skull?

A recent Scandinavian study provides the strongest evidence so far. Mobile users are more prone to representation of the policy of the property of the policy of the policy

periods when I am making TV programmes, living a peripatetic life. I remember when they first came into mass circulation, in the late 1980s, and I was sent off to do a psychological interview with a man who had already made his first million out of the product.

He was a troubled, somewhat lonely person who may have been drawn to this particular field by a strong desire to be able to be in touch at any moment. Certainly, he was not in touch with his own feelings. Nor did he seem to have many (or any) intimate relationships. His desire to be able to call and be called at any time, anywhere, reminded me of an insecure toddler who fears separation from its parents.

But whatever his deeper motives, there is no doubt he was on to a good thing. Even without the with all these health scares, in it may not be long before further reretrospect it seems common sense. search proves more malign out mobile phone can bring, the had changed the pitch. Advanced

tremely helpful to me during the from spouses, children and inti- so now the line was that I needed mates, means that more and more a new phone (£299.99) which would of us feel desperately lonely and want to be in contact.

> the phones to achieve practical ends, many others use them to feel connected emotionally. As work without having the phone next to increasingly replaces authentic your ear. intimacy, endless chatter on the phone, ostensibly about important action I first had to Aids when I capitalism's exploitation of our work-related matters, is often used to bolster self-esteem and fill an ciously unfair that its method of our weaknesses, are the poorest inner emptiness. An unnecessary transmission should particularly call to a colleague can make you feel powerful, popular, even loved. The fact that it may also be giving you brain cancer is something you would rather not think about, and the manufacturers are not about to encourage that thought.

When I first heard of this danger a couple of years ago, I rushed down to my local shop only to be told that there was nothing in it. But when I returned a month ago, they

I have a mobile and it is ex- more of us live alone, separated ity to make money every which way. send the microwaves away from my head. Luckily I had already re-Whilst some people only use searched the solution: a £39.99 earplug with microphone which enables you to speak and listen

> This saga reminds me of the reheard about it in 1986: bow vi- instincts (eg to eat, to have sex) and put at risk already marginalised groups like gays. Of course, many people at the time argued that this was common sense. If you use parts of the body for purposes that the Good Lord did not intend them, what can you expect?

But what I felt was that it was deeply unfair that the virus had not to die. been transmitted by the leather on Rolls Royce seats or by champagne corks. It was pretty random that it happened to be the way it

The mobile phone may turn out to be that champagne cork/Rolls Royce leather disease and, ironically, if it does provoke an epidemic of brain cancer, the most at-risk groups will be the insecure and wealthy people who first latched on to them to keep loneliness and insignificance at bay.

Usually, the people to suffer the worst consequences of advanced and most vulnerable. Could the mobile phone be the first exception to that rule?

If it is, my good friend - soon to wreak havoc with his zapper - will rejoice at the thought of train journeys and restaurants made more peaceable by the absence of the showy insecure types most likely

Oliver James's book Britain on The Couch - Why We're Unhappier Compared With 1950 Despite Being Richer' is published by Century.

Zen monks believe that controlling your internal energy, or chi, can make you healthier and happier. By Clare Garner

Look into my eyes and feel the power of chi

alking into a Some staggered, some swayed, Chi Kung ener- others threw their head forward and slapped their thighs. One man's arms flapped like a floppy-limbed non, you might puppet's, another man galloped on the spot as if he were playing ponies. stumbled into a Another man looked drunk, his Paul McKenna show. Everybody is in a trance-like state, with their eyes closed and their arms flailing. But the man in charge insists that he is not a hypnotist.

representative of Shaolin monks. He runs the Temple School in Islington, north London, the only Shaolin Zen Buddhist temple in this country. At the temple - a thinly disguised un-derground car park - Sifu "powers up" as many as 40 people in an evening, using his electromagnetic energy. The concept may seem alien to us, but there is nothing new about Chi Kung: the Chinese have practised it for the past 4,500 years.

Watch at first because it might freak you out," Sifu advised newcomers. Those who were familiar with Chi Kung went first, one at a

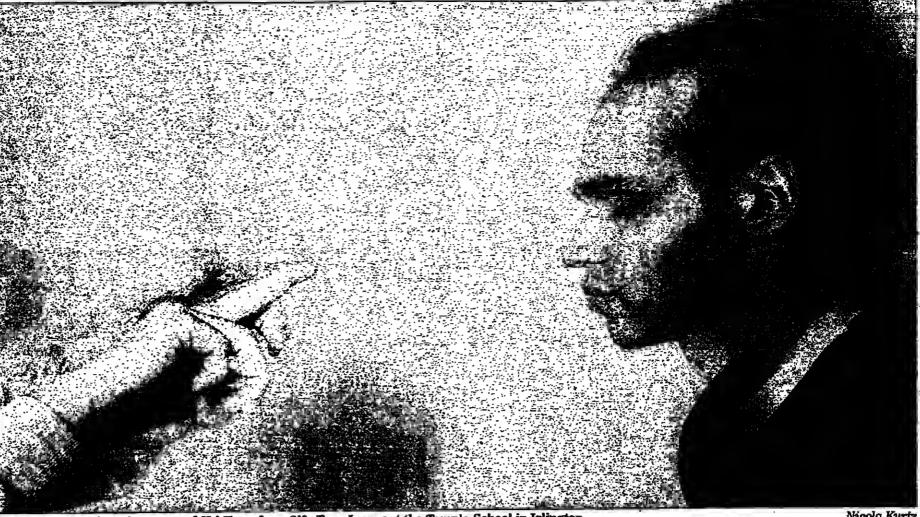
Sifu held their hands for a few seconds, told them to close their eyes. and then let go of them. He pointed his first and middle finger at the client's forehead and then stood in front of them for about 15 seconds.

knees giving way and his head lolling hackwards and forwards. Someone grunted; someone else roared. A man at the front - one of Sifu Tony Leung is the official UK the first to be "powered up" - curled up in the foetal position and cried. A young guy cavorted across the room, dancing, it seemed, with his shadow. And another spreadeagled his arms, rolling his eyeballs as if he had taken an overdose. Indeed, it looked as if everyone

had popped a pill half an hour earlier and the effects were just kicking in. But there were no drugs. just the waft of pungent incense and Sifu's potent cosmic energy. There are more than 300 Chi

Kung styles practised in China. Their common aim is to boost and regulate an individual's yin and yang energy so that the body can become its own healer.

The theory is that if one's energy channels are unblocked, good health and longevity will naturally follow. Sifu himself is a walking advertisement. With his smooth, unhlemished skin and thick head of jet



Sergit Kumar receives the power of Chi Kung from Sifu Tony Leung at the Temple School in Islington

younger than his 45 years. Those who attend Sifu's healing sessions suffer from an assortment of ailments, inchiding migraine, arthritis, sciatica, rheumatism, multiple scierosis, frozen shoulder and asthma. Some are simply stressed out.

Generally, they have drawn a blank with Western medicine. Khelly Shaker, 33, a banker, was waiting in line: "I'm just worried I'll go back to work after one of these sessions and I will do the wrong transaction," he joked. "I'm absolutely astounded by what I am seeing here. Someone is shouting and you feel like you're going to be assaulted."

When it came to my turn, I stepped forward and closed my eyes. As Sifu held my hands I felt a hurning sensation shoot up my arms, and an electric shock seemed to twang in the centre of my forehead. "You can forget about work It's not working for me." But after a

hlack hair he looks considerably now," said Sifu. My mind drifted off as it does with a pre-med, and my body relaxed. My limbs seemed to lengthen and felt hollow. I started moving and dancing, feeling uninhibited but in control.

After what felt like several hours, hut was in fact 15 minutes, I decided to return to Mr Shaker He looked shocked by what he had witnessed. "You looked like someone who is enjoying a rave party, singing without words," he exclaimed.

"You looked at peace with yourself, unaware of anything around you. Just happy. It takes about three ecstasy tablets to achieve that re-

Sergit Kumar, 30, was diagnosed as having multiple scienosis last August. Shortly afterwards he took the advice of his wife and signed up for a healing session with Sifu. "The first time I thought: 'This isn't me.

couple of weeks I ran up the stairs. I was thinking: 'If that works that time there's something there'."

Mr Kumar started going for a twohour session twice a week. Now the tingling sensation in his legs has gone and his walking is "slightly bet-ter". He has faith in Sifu but regards Chi Kung as an "ongoing treatment" rather than a miracle cure.

Therein Ne Win, a fourth-year medical student at Guy's and St Thomas's Hospital, has followed Mr Kumar's progress at the Temple School Mr Ne Win started out as a sceptic, but his own experience of a healing session blew his analytical medical mind.

He wrote a paper entitled: "A Medic's View of Chi Kung" in which he describes the treatment for himself and Mr Kumar He wrote: "When you start to move with no conscious thought, you realise that there is really something there after all." bat stress: "It places you in a state

He described Chi Kung as a "beof deep relaxation between full connign force" which had helped to heal an old sports injury of his. Sifu identified the clicking right shoulder and sent Chi into that part of Mr Ne Wm's body. Timmediately had a feeling of real warmth and heat forming right inside the joint capsule... a few more sessions resulted in a

much of the clicking," he wrote. "It is easy to dismiss unfamiliar concepts such as Chi Kung as worthless Chinese black magic or mumbo jumbo," he continued. "We should all bring things into perspective and realise that tunnel vision will only prevent you from seeing the glories of the bigger picture."

much smoother action, eliminating

He advocates practising Chi Kung as a preventative measure. "If your energy is strong enough, how can any illness befall you?" he asks, He believes Chi Kung can com-

sciousness and sleep. The resultant change in brainwave activity and release of hormones helps to keep you in this state of total relaxation." Regarding Mr Kumar, "every few

lessons he seems to get better". But Ne Win also strikes a note of caution: "It is very dangerous, as well as foolhardy, to say that Chi Kung has cured him of MS because he is not 100 per cent cured.

"And, importantly, MS is characterised by relapse and subsequent

The most striking impact that Chi Kung has had on Mr Kumar, in Mr Ne Win's opinion, is that it altered his outlook on life: "Whereas before there was bleak depression, there now appears to be a new vigour and urge to get his life back on track. You really have to see him run up and down the stairs smiling to see the beneficial effects it has had."

Last night a DJ ruined my life

Jones, 32, left a Manchester club with deadened hearing. At university he had gone to discos every week, at 29 he'd started clubbing again and found the noise level had increased significantly. "There's much more bass in dance music now. I think I accumulated hearing damage until that night in a club just pushed me over a threshold. I didn't have prob-

lems until I went there." Since then, Steve has found it difficult to follow conversation in a noisy room, or to tell in which direction a phone is ringing. But it's the legacy of permanent tinnitus, or ringing in the ears, that bothers him most.

"It's a nasty noise like a spade scraping along the ground, and it's almost constant. When I got it, I felt angry and was frightened it would get

Clubbing can damage your hearing, warns Emma Haughton

worse until I jumped off a hridge or something." Although for many years studies looking for a link he-

tween leisure noise and hearing loss produced mixed results, recently more sensitive acoustic tests have uncovered worrying evidence that Steve is just one of many such sufferers. Research at Keele Univer-

sity pieked those most and least exposed to entertainment noise amongst 15 to 23-yearolds. Even amongst the youngest, those most exposed to noise showed evidence of loss of hearing acuity. "In the older subjects there were also very sharp gaps in hearing in the high frequency range," says Ted Evans, Keele professor of auditory physiology and vice-

chair of the British Society of Audiology. For many years Evans has also performed tests on undergraduates' hearing function. "These results have got worse - 50 per cent of stu-

the scene, and people seem to be exposed for longer." Research by Professor Adrian Davis at the Medical Research Council's Institute of Hearing Research found that the proportion of people exposed to high noise levels at clubs has increased substan-

decibels, the safe maximum exposure time is 15 minutes. Mark Anderson, youth service project co-ordinator at the British Tinnitus Association, dents picked at random show believes that in 10-20 years signs of hearing damage. Clubclubbing and hearing loss will hing is the new ingredient on emerge as a serious issue. Indeed, after he developed tinnitus himself following a loud concer, he became so concerned that he produced an education pack warning of the dangers of loud music

What seems certain is that young clubbers are storing up tially. In 1980-1984, six per cent trouble for the future. "There is of 18 to 25-year-olds received a big question over what will noise doses in clubs exceeding happen in 20 years' time when safety standards; by the midnormal ageing adds to hearing 1990s that rose to 18 per cent. loss," says Professor Evans.

has already been done, and although treatment has helped him cope, he has had to alter his Cluh music can often reach lifestyle. "At work I've had to ask 110-120 decibels, yet even at 105 colleagues not to drop things or slam doors, and find out about fire drills beforehand. But my higgest change is not to go to clubs or concerts. I can't even go to the cinema or to the pub at night. They're just too noisy."

Advice for clubbers

Get away from the music for 10 minutes every hour, to give the inner ear hair cells the chance to recover.

Keep as far away from the speakers as possible. Ear plugs will keep potential damage to a minimum. Go clubbing less often, and

THE ECONOMIC crisis in

ished in order to avoid

the largest hospital in

this manner in the last

escaped on average two

ed the treatment," a

spokesman said.

days before they terminat-

Cipto Mangunkusumo,

paying the hill.

for shorter periods. ■ Be extra careful if hearing loss runs in your family.



Even 15 minutes in a noisy club can lead to permanent ear damage Craig Easton

part in the study.

SICK NOTES

CLASSIFIED

Legal Notices No. 002880 of 1998 IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION

IN THE MATTER OF

WELLINGTON
HOLDINGS PIC AND IN
THE MATTER OF THE
COMPANIES ACT 1985 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on GIVEN that a Petition was on 20th May 1998 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the share premium account of the above named Company by the cancellation of an arrount equal to 19,433,857 standing to the credit of the share premium account.

premium account.

AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before the Companies Court Registrar at the Royal Courts of Justice. Strand, London WCZ ZLL on 17th June 1998. Any Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for confirmation of the said reduction of the share premium account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermeationed solicitors on payment of the regulated Dated the 9th day of June

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RESEARCHERS at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ootario, have found that about half the aphrodisiacs on sale in herbal medicine stores in Thailand, Hong Kong, China and North America do not cootain the ingredients they claim. They're selling penises under one name and in fact the source is something dif-ferent," Professor Bradley White was quoted as say-

While seal penis is traditionally regarded as an aphrodisiac (though there is no scientific evidence),

Indonesia has hit hospitals badly, not least because many patients have been fakes have been found to be fleeing from their beds bemade from genitalia of dogs fore their treatment is finand hulls.

A RESEARCHER at the Ohio State University Col-Jakarta, lost 355 patients in lege of Medicine has called for a ban on the sale of three months of 1997. "They trampolines for home use after an analysis of government statistics on trampoline accidents.

In 1995, American hospital emergency departments treated 58,500 children injured on trampolines, compared with 29,600 in 1990.

A REPORT in the current issue of the journal The Physician and Sports Medicine reveals that bungeejumping is safer than had previously been thought. In the first wide-ranging

look at injuries in this activ ity, Dr Craig C Young and his team found that 42 jumpers had a total of 59 minor medical complaints, trut all the injuries healed within a week, except for lacerations to one jumper

who changed his mind and tried to grab the platform on his way down. A total of 200 hungee-jumpers took

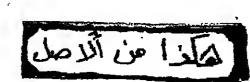
A PAPER delivered at a meeting of the American Academy of Orthopaedic Surgeons has identified a complaint that may be ranked alongside tennis elbow, jogger's nipple and runner's knee: it is golfer's spine. Using high-speed cameras to record the swings of 43 healthy, experi-

enced male golfers, researchers were able to identify deformation of the

discs in the spine. Meanwhile, Japanese experts have performed X-ray and CAT scans of 26 male golfers and compared

them with non-golfers. The results confirm that golfing can damage the spine - hut it is more likely to do so with modern steel shafts (which require more spine-twisting for optimal results) than old-fashioned hickory clubs.

ACCORDING TO a study published earlier this year in the Journal of Applied Social Change, lawyers in general do not have especially high levels of testosterone, but trial lawyers average about 30 per cent higher rates of the male sex hormone than lawyers who stay out of the courtroom. High levels of testosterone are generally associated with dominance, persistence and focused attention, as well as anti-social behaviour and competitiveness. The results applied to male and female lawyers.



MEDIA

Why the 'Observer' isn't working

at is five years since the Guardian agreed to pur-chase the Observer from Tiny Rowland's Lonrho group. Five years of high ambition, too many editors, much internal angst - and falling circulation. In the five years of Guardian ownership it has lost some 20 per cent of sale, down from 500,000 to 400,000. It has also cost the Guardian a great deal of money -£26m to buy it in the first place, regular losses of £8m or £9m a year since then and, in all, towards £70m over the five years.

Last Sunday's edition of the paper proudly announced that the Observer was "the only quality Sunday newspaper currently to show a rise in its readership". There's a certain desperation in putting a sixmonth rise of 0.8 per cent on the front page, but you have to take comfort where you can, even from a statistic commonly exploited by those to whom circulation figures do not give the same opportunity. When the audited circulation figures are published later this week, it is believed that the 207-year-old Sunday paper will be even closer to the 400,000 threshold, and that nothing will prevent it dropping below that.

一年:李原

The Observer in the "300s" is the newspaper equivalent of Manchester City in the second division. A great club fallen on bad times; the long climb back a hard one. As always with newspaper circulations some perspective is needed. Aggregate newspaper sales figures are not what they were, but that does not mean that all sectors of the market are in decline. The Sunday broadsheet market is not. When the Guardian Media Group bought the Observer in 1993 the four titles in the Sunday "quality" market - the Sunday Times, the Sunday Telegraph, the Independent on Sunday and the Observer were together selling some 2.692 million copies, of which the Observer accounted for some 19 per cent. Today, the same four titles are selling 2.880 million copies, the Observer about 14 per cent of them. So the size of the market place cannot be blamed. It has grown by nearly 200,000 copies, and still the Observer has managed to sell 100,000 fewer.

So we have an enlarging sector of the market with the most venerable title doing badly. Who is doing well? Not the Independent on Sunfive-year period we are considering. has been realised. Unlike The In-It follows then that the other two pittles have enjoyed considerable success. The Sunday Times, consistently the dominant player, has powered on, up 120,000 or so on five years ago. The most impressive circulation growth has come from the Sunday Telegraph, up about 250,000 over the five-year period.

The marriage of Guardian and Observer appeared, on the face of it, to be a natural one. Both papers appealed to a predominantly middleclass, intellectual, left-of-centre audIt is a long time since the 'Observer' hit the magic circulation figure of a million. Now it must face the prospect of dipping below the tragic figure of 400,000. By Peter Cole



tential for economies of scale, for shared infrastructure between daily day, which has also lost sales in the and newly acquired Sunday, and this dependent and the Doily Telegraph (for a short period), the Guardian never felt tempted by seven-day publication - though there were gestures in this direction. Guardian staff were appointed to responsible positions on the Observer. Foreign correspondents serviced both papers. Most significantly, the Guardian's editor, then Peter Preston, was editor-in-chief of both titles. Alan Rusbridger, who became Guardian editor in 1995, soon acquired a similar role. Preston had been respon-

ience. The Guardian saw great po-sible (through the Scott Trust) for the that successful rivals in the sector flect the quality of the product, cer-sporting events take place on Sunappointment of the first two Ob- demonstrate. In dismantling "old" Jonathan Fenby and Andrew Jaspan. Rusbridger delivered the third, Will Hutton. Two editors in three years, three in five. Now Hutton, in charge of policy and opinion, is supported by Jocelyn Targett, de facto

operational editor. Internal argument between the two titles has not helped, either Ex-editors have complained in public; Guardian staff speak freely of their resentment at the drain on "their" resources of the Observer, Guardian staff are moved to the Observer, and often return. There is none of the consistency of editorial management

server editors after the takeover - Observer culture, the new management has not yet created a new one.

Caroline McCall, commercial director of the Guardian and the Observer, told a recent Guild of Editors conference: "When the Guardian acquired the Observer it underestimated how big the job was. It was a newspaper that had been in decline for 15 to 20 years. The Sunday market is a really difficult market. Readers' perceptions of the brand are taking a long time to shift. The Observer is [now] a much better paper ... But its circulation figures do not

Circulation figures seldom re-

sponsible for it. McCall is right to say that the Sunday market is difficult. Here are some of the difficulties. First the traditional ones: little news tends to happen on Saturdays. Sunday is a different kind of day. Readers look for a different kind of paper. And the modern ones: Saturday newspapers used to be the filmsiest and the lowest sellers of the week. Now the broadsheets have similar bulk to the Sunday papers, and are significantly cheaper: similar content; better value. Sunday newspapers used to have a monopoly on live sport. Now a significant amount of Premiership football and other big profitable. Both these papers have

tainly not in the eyes of those re- day. Monday papers have big sports sections, as big as some Sundays'. Senior politicians prefer early Sunday television programmes to talking to Sunday newspapers - so their choice quotes run all day on radio and TV, and are still mopped up in Monday newspapers. Patterns of leisure have changed. Sunday is a doing day, rather than a day for lying in and reading newspapers.

But this doesn't let the Observer off the hook. Despite all the above, Sunday broadsheets sell more copies than five and ten years ago. The Sunday Times and the Sunday Telegraph are both successful and

Saturday stablemates that are multisection quasi-Sunday papers selling much more cheaply than their Sunday counterparts.

Interestingly, the two successful titles are Conservative newspapers that have flirted less with New Labour than most nationals, while the Observer is left of centre and has never supported the Tories. Concentrating on the Observer, how can it be that over the past decade, which witnessed the end of Thatcherism. the internecine divisions of the Major government, and the rise and success of New Labour, the newspaper that had so much to exploit, so much to gain, has done

Quite simply, it did not know its readers. Worse, it thought it did. The consistent triumph of the Guardian, and the reason that, against all the odds, the Times price-cutting and the Telegraph give-aways had almost zero effect on circulation, was that the paper knew its immensely loyal readers so well. It has impressively developed a distinctive "brand" that permeates every as-pect of its activities. While the Eighties should have presented the Observer with all the opportunities of opposition critique, it was unable to take on board the popularity of Thatcherism or the necessity for old Labour to change its agenda

And when it seemed to catch up, by appointing the then guru of the chattering classes, Will Hutton, as its third editor in as many years, it failed to realise that New Labour had moved on again. New Labour was happy to use the chattering classes in the short term, to ensure coverage for their "project", to reinforce the message that the only worth-while debate was taking place around them. But once they had power, the chatterers were discarded in favour of "the people".

And what the Observer failed to relise was that you need a lot more readers than chatterers, and that readers, even of the Observer, are interested in much more than politics. Trouble is, when the Observer Isn't earnestly political it's just earnest. And when it isn't just earnest, as when it's dealing with lighter issues such as Ginger Spice and Dodi's dad, it's loftily earnest. While full of good things, it lacks the conviction the Guardian has when dealing with the ess important things

It could learn a lot from the Sunday Times, not in terms of the opinions it represents, but in its recognition that it doesn't need to represent those interests all the time. Trouble is, it hates the Sunday Times so much that it can't bear to look at it. If it looked at it, it could still hate it, but it could discover how much there is to the mix - to the inconsequential, to not having attitude about everything, to Sunday.

Peter Cole is professor of journalism at the University of Central

. Just give them the facts

ANALYSIS

The Diana effect has revived the fortunes of the TV documentary. By Paul McCann

IT IS a truism hardly worth stating that Diana, Princess of Wales, was and is worth cold hard cash to the media. She sold magazines, newspapers and now it appears she can even help the more lofty world of current affairs television.

Last week's ITV programme on that crash (Diana: the Secrets behind the Crush) may have attracted a universal panning from critics and commentators for its reliance on the theories of Mohamed Al Fayed, but it also attracted an audience. The 9pm documentary and discussion hour attracted an average 12 million viewers according to unofficial overnight BARB ratings. This gave ITV a 53 per cent share of the available audience, which is more than respectable for that slot on the commercial broadcaster.

The obvious logic is that the populist nature of this perticular programme gave it the ratings it did and that otherwise current affairs would fail in that slot. Certainly the orthodoxy of the former ITV programming director Marcus Plantin was that the only thing to put on at 9pm was

To squeeze past this mindset, audience of 12 million. drama, drama and more drama.



Mr Plantin's requirement seemed to be that factual programmes had to be about sex, crime or the paranormal. Which would explain the Holluwood Women style of factual programming. Current affairs, however, is solidly banished to after News at Ten. Here, worthy programming - like a John Pilger Network First - can safely be aired to satisfy the requirements of the Independent Television Commission.

Yet once upon a time ITV did schedule meaty current affairs at 9pm and, according to the gurn of BARB ratings, the researcher and television historian William Philips, they regularly achieved ratings of around 10 million. According to Philips, the Diana programme's figure is not that exceptional.

And even in the 10.40pm slot there is a strong appetite for factual shows. ITV recently attracted 7 million viewers to Savage Skies, its proper science documentary about the weather. At 9pm this programme could easily have managed an

The kicking that ITV has received from advertisers because of its ageing down-market audience prompted the management changes of last year that brought in a new chief executive and programming director in David Liddiment. His desire to attract more ABC1 viewers has already resulted in the continuing search for a peak-time one-hour, current affairs programme. If ITV decides against moving News at Ten, and therefore cannot put the new show in that slot, it will most probably run at 9pm.

Of course the Diana effect was still felt for ITV. This is easily illustrated because the story of the Princess's death did similar things for Channel 4's Dispotches last week.

A much more hard-headed programme, Dispotches pulled apart the conspiracy theories aired by ITV and pulled in nearly 5 million viewers. The programme's weight means it usually achieves under 2 million viewers - even Cutting Edge can normally pull in three to four mil-

WORRIES that the Sun's deputy editor, Rebekah Wade, would inject too much cuddly female influence on the paper have been dispelled by the outgoing editor Stuart Higgins. He was forced to pull her choice of headline for the story about deaths linked to the impotence drug Viagra. The sensitive young lady wanted to

with "Die Hard". For the George Michael public lavatories story she proposed "Under a-wrist".

EIGGINS told the stories during

a speech at Warle's 30th birthday bash at the Belvedere restaurant, in Holland Park, west London, attended by such tabloid glitterati as Alan Rushridger of the Guardian and Peter Stothard of the Times. The rest of the speech was very waspish, about the need for long experience of the paper. Higgins, it was assumed, was trying to save his job from Wade, who has only been on the paper a few months. He had the wrong target, however, as the new Snn editor, David Yelland, was also at the party, sitting quietly in a corner having been flown in at News International's expense.

BBC NEWS management's hot new idea for its journalists is to group them together in their mammoth new Television Centre newsroom in clusters according to their specialism; science education, legal, etc. Media, arts, and, for some reason, royal correspondents have been officially gathered into the "culture cluster", which, while it sounds like something to do with



THE WORD ON THE STREET

Sellafield, is an improvement on the Sunday Times' nickname for its fluffy types: the shallow end.

MOVE OVER Helio! - the curse of Channel 4 is upon us. It might be the vogue to blame a redhaired Virgin DJ for the relative tragedies of Gazza and Geri Spice, but in fact a far more malevolent force is at the root of all this distress. C4 decided around a month ago to schedule Gazza's Coming Home, a documentary about his vears at Rangers, as a pre-World Cup repeat. Cue Gazza's deselection. For the double whammy, the unusual decision was taken two weeks ago to repeat TFI Friday's Spice Girls special just as, you guessed it, Geri quit. Warning to all celebrities: do not allow yourself to be "featured" by C4; pursue photo shoots in Hello! at

THE self-effacing Guardian is

considering plans to set up a museum devoted to journalism that will present "hacks as heroes". Whether it will

contain heroic cod faxes and

hmch receipts paid for heroically

by the KGB is yet to be decided,

but, given the high esteem journalists are held in by the public, the mind boggles at who would pay to see a slightly elaborate cuttings library. The Daily Mail's Lord Rothermere is said to have a similar plan, so let's hope that museum includes a free and frank appraisal of the 1922 Zinoviev letter.

BODDINGTONS is to sponsor Skinner and Baddiel's Fantasy World Cup programme on ITV. The boys are about to find the commercial world a tougher place than the BBC, from where they were poached. The two comedians used to spend much time on screen swigging bottles of Becks, the definitive

Nineties lager, Becks is made

Whitbread. ITC rules will probably stop the two comedians being forced to drink the cream of Manchester. But don't look too hard for the bottles of Becks to make an арреагалсе. A SERIES of hectic job changes of

by Scottish Courage, while

Boddingtons is made by

late have clearly had a negative effect on the appearance of Andrew Marr, one-time editor of this organ. His new column for the Observer this week was flagged on the top of the front page in early editions alongside a picture of Keith Flint of the Prodigy. Keith's opinions on weighty issues like the single currency have never been revealed, so his column would have been worth reading. Mr Marr however was widely known for his bizarre haircuts and the black rings under his eyes, so the picture wasn't that big a surprise.

SOME confusion remains about the reason for the Mail on Sunday's front-page apology to Brooke Shields last week. The paper's editor, Jonathan Holborow, insists it was his personal decision to break with newspaper tradition and match the space given to the original

However an article in yesterday's Guardian claims it was part of Shields' lawyers' demands. Whether the frontpage apology catches on in future may depend on whether it truly was a piece of one-off editorial largesse or won by the hard-nosed libel expert Keith

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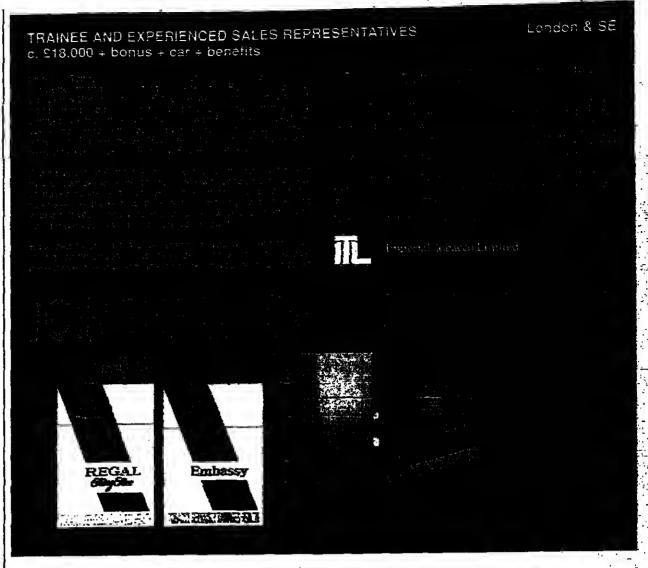
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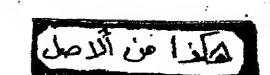
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Julie Welch, the doyenne of female football reporters. There were a lot of dinosaurs [when I started], and there are a lot of dinosaurs now

Women are calling the shots in the commentary box. Naomi Marks meets football's female elite

Scottish football fans following their team's fortunes in France on BBC radio and television, the main World Cup lowdowns, updates, match reports ne of two women. Hazel Irvine will be reborting from the Scottish camp for the BBC network, with Rhona McLeod doing the same for BBC Scotland.
The BBC's head of sport, Bob Shennan,

TILLY

is keen to employ women sports broadcasters. He refers to those such as Irvine and McLeod as pioneers. And, no doubt alert to the commercial risks of alienating the growing ranks of female football fans, he speaks of "the danger of presenting sport to the public through 28-year-old white middle-class men called Peter".

Yet for McLeod, who will be reporting from a World Cup for the first time, it was very nearly not to be. A lover of sport since childhood, she first suggested that she might report on a football match while working for one of the Scottish Sundays. Her editor was delighted; it was about time football was covered from the woman's perspective, he said. Could she look at the atering arrangements? Perhaps talk about the toilets. too?

Not so delighted, McLeod opted instead for a subbing post on the sports desk, leaving match reports to male colleagues. She explains: "If I wasn't going to be able to do the job property, then I wasn't going to do it at all." Such anecdotes illustrate the difficulties faced by women wanting to enter football journalism. Still very much in the minority in both broadcasting and print, they appear to encounter resistance neither from those in the sports industry nor from

This is something McLeod discovered when she finally got her chance to move



KATE BATTERSBY Her presence in the press-box prompted a stinging letter in which a senior journalist complained that 'no woman ought to be allowed to write about sport'



RHONA McLEOD . The players are brilliant to deal with, the managers are fine. The only problem is other journalists who don't like the idea of a woman doing the job'



ELEANOR OLDROYD A sports presenter on Radio 5 Live, she believes that the world of broadcasting is more welcoming to women than that of

away from the desk and into the arena three Jane Garvey, was taken to task by a (male) years agc. "The players are brilliant to deal with, the managers are fine. The only problem is other journalists who don't like the idea of a woman doing the job."

Female sports journalists tend to be columnists, the world of the press-box being a fiercely macho place. McLeod's response has been to make sure she is twice as knowledgeable about her subject as her male counterparts. "Research, research, research," she says. "People will always look

But the Radio 5 Live sports presenter Eleanor Oldroyd insists that the world of broadcasting is more welcoming to women than is the world of print. She points to a recent incident in which her colleague, the

national newspaper reporter in La Manga - the Spanish resort where the England team has been in training - for having the temerity to suggest that press conference questioning of the England coach, Glenn Hoddle, had been anodyne.

Certainly the doyenne of football reorting, Julie Welch, agrees with Oldroyd that print journalists have some way to go before collecting any medals in right-on-

Welch covered her first football match 25 years ago for the Observer. It was Coventry v Spurs ("You always remember the first, don't you?") and, although she encountered resistance from some other journalists, she reported the sport that she is 5 Live Breakfust Programme presenter passionate about for the next 12 years, at matches that she has covered has there

which point she gave up, swearing that she would never return to the press box. But three years ago she did. "Huge parts of me enjoyed it enormously." she says. "Another part saw all those ghastly, snarling men I'd seen in 1973, still hating women, and I thought: I don't want to do this'.

"There were a lot of dinosaurs then, and there are a lot of dinosaurs now." Welch will be covering France 98, however, but from home, as armchair critic for the Sunday Telegraph.

Kate Battersby, one of a handful of thirtysomething women who have, since Welch, succeeded in infiltrating national newspaper sports departments, will be in France. Chief sports writer for the Evening Standard, she says only once in the dozens of

being another female journalist in the press box with her. Objections to her presence are rare, she adds, but when they come they are

One senior journalist wrote to her first allowed to write about sport because everything they say about the subject is a deluge

She shrugs off such hlatant bigotry, hut remains irritated by letters congratulating her for putting across a women's point of view. "That amazes me because all women are seen to have one lumpen view. Men, of course, are allowed to have individual points

The Sun football reporter Vikki Orvice also dislikes being labelled. "You just have to be able to do the job," she says.

She points out that she has encountered little discrimination (though as a journalism student she was accused of having her. father/brother/boyfriend write the match report that she handed in as a Christmas project). In any case, Orvice says, any woman who has negotiated the macho atmosphere of a newsroom has been well

trained for the sports department. Like Welch, she too remembers the first match she reported. It was Arsenal v Norwich, after she had persuaded the sports editor at the Daily Mail, where she was a news reporter, that she was serious enough about sport to handle it.

"People often say I must be hard." she says. "But I've just always loved football." Not elevated enough yet to have her pick of the crop when it comes to choosing which matches she reports, she has just one game to cover in the coming football fest. Only England v Colombia will be hers. But is she looking forward to it?

"Oh yes," she enthuses. "This is a dream job. It's wonderful."

TRIAL BY **MEDIA**

IN WHICH DANIEL TOPOLSKI, FORMER COACH OF OXFORD'S BOAT RACE CREW, IS IMMERSED

IN ROWING MAGAZINES

OOK FOR a magazine on rowing amid the plethora of men's journals at your newsagents and you'll be disuppointed. Golf, football, anding, bikers, health, laddish ifestyle and sex, no problem. Minority sports? Forget it. So it's strictly subscription-only specialist monthlies.

For most people, rowing is the Boat Race, Henley and Steve Redgrave. But for 30,000 British men and women rowers the groan is, What about us?" Try 30 times that number in over a hundred countries and you have a gap in the market crying out to be filled.

The specialist magazines, all they've got, are filled with the eccentric, the medical, the sports-political and the egodriven gossip. Training hints jostle with results tables from obscure regattas mixed in with those from international events and ads for 85-kilo racing boats, oars, riggers and heart-rate monitors. The letters pages, though, are a joy, full of bitter arguments over the minutiae of the sport.

Compared to the men's health and fitness magazine which focus on sex, musclebuilding and diet – "Get lean, get serious, get a bigger chest", "Fat loss in a bottle", "Maximise your sexual performance" - the specialist mag makes solemn reading.



Daniel Topolski: finds few laughs in specialist mags

Not many laughs. Yet the fitthe all-round aerobic sport.

Regatta magazine, the voice of the Amateur Rowing Association, has a captive readership. Rowers get it free with their obligatory registration fee to the ARA. Without it they're not allowed to compete.

Regatta has elbowed aside the less glossy Rowing, which for 50 years was the only source of news about the sport apart from broadsheet coverage of hig events. Hilariously ungrammatical editorials and hopeless spelling distracted readers from the message, hut it was an authentic voice from the riverbank. It is now deceased, victim of a quaint but effective price-cutting war. Who needs two rowing mags when one is

The German Rudersport is, as you'd expect, fact-focused, and America's the Oarsman carries long rambling essays. Edward English, a Californian-based aficionado, produces a fat handbook of world-wide news cuttings twice yearly.

But let's face it, none of these is going to give the edi-tor of *Men's Health* any sleep-

The standards police should act with less speed, more taste



The guardians of broadcasting standards presume that the majority view should rule. **Jaclyn Moriarty** begs to differ

research, and to adjudicate on complaints, in relation to "standards" and "fairness". "Standards" means violence, sex, taste and decency; "fairness" means unjust or unfair treatment, or privacy infringements.

Last week it released a new set of guidance codes for broadcasters, about serial killers, which parodies meant to take on board changes in media violence - featured violence public tastes. But even as it is trying to update itself, the question to be addressed is: should it exist at all? Two weeks ago, the commission

censured the cooking show TV Dinners for its placenta-eating episode and made headline news. The commission has also agreed with audience protests that related to: ence process of wales's death, was (serial killers won't do). Lesbian af reaction with research into "public" a way that is difficult to control. If law at Combridge University.

Commission was established on necrophilia and bestiality ("unac-April Fool's Day last year. Its brief: ceptable") and humour about childto produce codes of practice, to do ran and drug abuse ("inappropriate to treat this subject in such a lighthearted manner"). A drama in which shoplifting teenagers gloat about their crime was denounced. since this "could have sent an inappropriate message to youngsters". Natural Born Killers - a film

> sented unfortunate "role models". The commission also rejects complaints. One about a lesbian kiss on a Welsh soap opera was not upheld because it was not a lingering kiss, and the audience had been well prepared. A complaint about the broad-

THE BROADCASTING Standards ligious believers), jokes about not upheld - because the broad-fection has to snuggle its way into attitudes. It upheld a complaint casters hadn't known of her death.

the commission's decision-making and complaints about programmes broadcast after 9pm are often re-poly is compulsory. Children must jected. But a programme on between 11pm and midnight on New Year's Eve received a wrist-slapping for pop stars have sexual intercourse. jokey references to sex with pop stars, pregnant women and homosexuals, because "families expected to be able to watch television together to see in the New Year".

unacceptable if it is religious, touches on taboos like bestiality, or raises serious issues like drug abuse. Drama must provide appropriate moral messages (shoplift and you're cast of a sex quiz early on the day of finished) and suitable role models

a middle-of-the-road position, some-The Watershed often pops up in where between too leisurely and too abrupt. Once news of a shocking national event is out, its media mononot be allowed to know that pregnant women, homosexuals and (oddly)

If such a body should exist, then it's too easy to pick and choose amongst decisions, and find things that seem ridiculous. But maybe it should not exist at all. What has be-Looking over such decisions, a come of "freedom of expression" few basic rules emerge: humour is when one small body is deciding what we can and cannot see and hear? The commission would resoond that it is not one small body but the public deciding what the public see and hear. It reacts to "publie" complaints, and it informs its

about Madonna using the word "Motherfucker", because research suggested that people rank this among the wickedest swear words.

But public opinion is not really what freedom of speech is about. It's meant to be about dissent, about breaching conventions, taking risks, shocking, and being in the minority. If the majority decide what we can say and hear, free speech is doomed.

We'd never put up with the "public" deciding what rude words we can read in our books, but we allow control like that over broadcasting. Unlike books, though, broadcasting frequencies are scarce and decisions must be made about what is broadcast - so why shouldn't the majority decide? Unlike books, broadsomething "harmful" springs on to the screen, the harm may be done before anybody can flick the switch.

Violence and pornography on TV or radio may well be harmful to children, although the evidence is inconclusive. No such argument can be made in relation to taste. Much of childhood is spent wallowing in far more tasteless jokes than anything a TV producer could dream up.

The question of what is in good enough taste for us to watch (or what tastes good enough for us to watch being tasted) should be left to the remote control. At best the placentaeating episode was a fascinating insight into minority culture. At worst, it was just plain silly - as are so many April Fool's jokes.

casting leaps into the family home in The writer is a researcher in media.

SUCCESSFUL sitcoms attract huge loyal audiences, but untested sitcoms remain the riskiest genre for broadcasters and producers alike. The problem is that the very feature which pulls in big audiences, the attractiveness of the characters, is extraordinarily difficult to communicate within the first. or "pilot" episode. We don't know the characters and we have to know the characters to understand the jokes. It's comedy's Catch-22. Many series take years to catch on Recent "slow burns" include Last of the Summer Wine. Men Behaving Badly and One Foot in the Grave.

For a sitcom pilot to hit its target immediately is very rare. My theme night would feature those first episodes which not only achieved high ratings, but also ran for years.

A good sitcom pilot has to have a great "hook" - an intriguing situation which sets up a strong plot and sets the

₩IEO υγ. «IEXTOI I TYEIKE) Producer: Mark Hayman Director: Julian Saul

The Mary Tyler Moore 20.00

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21.30 Birds of

characters against each other. Each line of dialogue has to do three jobs: it must advance the plot, give us background to the character, and at the same time be funny.

The premise of the show must also hit a nerve; it must be contemporary and fresh. and in tune with what's happening in society. Few writers achieve this.

My theme night is made up of some of the best sitcom pilots ever made, and all illustrate the brilliance the writers have shown in getting around the sitcom Catch-22. They will air chronologically, in historical order and will be introduced by Clive James, the a really tough job. former Observer television critic and international

television guru, . Kicking off the evening, the first-ever episode of the hit US series The Mary Tyler Moore Show, which has a cracking

premise and the added advantage of a well-known character. Mary Tyler Moore had already been in a hit sitcom, The Dick van Dyke Show, for many years and her character in her own show was an evolution of her character in van Dyke's.

Newly single, she moves from New York to Minneapolis, to a new job in an all-male local TV newsroom, headed up by a patriarchal Lou Grant. The conflict between the liberated young cosmopolitan career woman and the misogynistic middle-aged provincial news chief provides plenty of conflict in the office scenes. The writers also created conflict in the domestic scenes by having Mary attempt to move into an apartment which turned out to be occupied by someone else.

The Likely Lads, written by Dick Clement and Ian La Frenais, was another classic pilot episode. The conflict in this series was based. unusually, on the internal conflict within Ian La Frenais' own psyche: the character of Boh in the show was the aspiring middle-class hoy that La Frenais' mother wanted him to be, whilst Terry was the solid working-class lad that Ian imagined himself to be.

Birds of a Feather, written by Laurence Marks and Maurice Gran, kicked off with one of the sickest pilot episodes ever written. It featured a bank robbery which went wrong, a car chase, a separation, the discovery by the sisters Sharon and Tracey that their busbands were bank rohbers, a sex toys party, and a climactic courtroom scene in which the husbands were sent down for seven years.

It achieved an audience of 13 million, one of the highest ever ratings for a sitcom pilot, and is still on the air 90 episodes later.

My other choices, Drop the Dead Donkey, Porridge and I Love Lucy, also show that by hitting the zeitgeist, building in. plenty of conflict and creating strong, clearly defined characters, writers can overcome the sitcom Catch-22. But then not many writers can do it. Those who can, and are prepared to live in a mansion in Bel Air, earn upwards of \$1m a year. It's a tough job ...

Mick Pilsworth is Chief Executive of independent production company Chrysalis Visual Entertainment. He is executive producer of a new ITV sitcom. Babes in the Wood.













Lambie-Nairn has shaped the corporate identities of both the BBC's terrestrial channels, as well as Carlton, S4C and Channel 4

By their logos shall you know them

SKY IS at it, FTV's at it, last year even the BBC did it. In channel terms, anyone who's anyone is having an image revamp, an on-air facelift or a branding exercise. Last month ITV announced that this autumn it will have a whole new face, courtesy of the design firm English + Pockett. Sky 1 got a new look last week and, by September, every single Sky

channel will be rebranded. It's that oft-cited digital future rearing its bead that has caused the present vogue for an all-singing, alldancing "ident". The fact that ITV has not had a new on-air identity for 10 years speaks volumes for the state of marketing in terrestrial television. When there were just the three channels, who really needed to lure viewers with strong, smartly targeted, integrated branding?

When Channel 4 launched in 1982 business, and Martin Lambie-Nairn popular entertainment channel". - creator of the "4" - was the

Blame Martin Lambie-Nairn. He designed the Channel 4

logo, and now the name of the game is branding, rebranding and re-rebranding. By Janine Gibson

designer everyone wanted. Darrell has so many different names, view-Pockett, whose firm English + Pockett is now writing briefs for the creatives on the ITV account, also designed the present ITV identity back in 1988. He notes a change: "It was very much a political exercise then. It was pre-franchise round and the whole of the ITV network wanted to be seen as solid, but I could never quite understand why - they all obviously wanted to represent their own interests."

With the consolidation of ownership, things are different for ITV. animated logo, and the regional cause it's a federation of companies." ITV companies set their in-house Pockett's challenge is to "re- launch on promises. In the end, of graphics departments on the case. establish the identity of channel 3 course, if the product doesn't live up Channel idents had become a viable and put over its merits as the to the brand, viewers reject it."

ers don't even know what to call it. The north-east franchise occasionally known as Type Tees Television has, in particular, suffered in recent years. For decades just known as Tyne Tees, it was rebranded as Channel 3 North East when Yorkshire Television took over. Local uproar led to that move being reversed last year when Granada took over Yorkshire Tyne Tees. Confused?

By contrast, Channel 5 launched last year with one of the best targeted off-air marketing campaigns already in existence. You're able to

Lambie-Nairn, who reinvented The third button on the remote BBC2 in 1988, is adamant on this

KIX S

point: "All branding is 90 per cent programming, but it is possible to have a brand which says one thing when the programmes say another. BBC2's brand was old, dull and snobbish, and the programmes were radically turning into anything but that." His task was to align the branding with the content, and the multiple awards that bave been won by BBC2's idents bear

testimony to his success. Sky 1's new look is based on a similar principle. Made by the comedy producer Tiger Aspect, a series of with its 3-D, computer-generated "This isn't a political exercise – it's ever. But, says Lambie-Nairn, it newidents focuses on the channel's figure "4", it gave us all a shock. to try and get an identity for wasn't enough. "A channel launch is key programmes. Behind-the-Suddenly everyone wanted an ITV which hasn't got one as such bevery different to revamping one scenes experts from Friends and ER pass on some of the secrets of the shows, such as how to put on a surgical rubber glove in two seconds. A new logo is based around a television set-type box which, according to the general manager, Elisabeth

Murdoch, shows that "we : lens on your world".

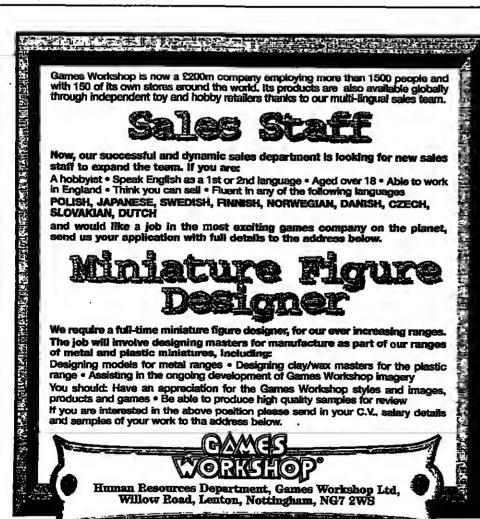
It's the first in a concerted move by Sky to refocus every single channel. Murdoch says branding doesn't necessarily mean changing: "It's about trying to get to the heart of what you do. what makes you you." For that reason, she feels Sky Sports. is least in need of a facelift.

"It has probably been the most successful in having a clear sense of itself because live sports is so passionate in itself," she says. "People have to have a relationship with a broadcaster if it's to be valuable to them. This country has now realised that - the US broadcasters had to realise it when [the premium movie channel] HBO came along." Murdoch will, by September, have reinvented Sky Movies in HBO's image, presenting added value to viewers with Exclusives (made-for TV movies) and reinforcing that value on screen. She adds: "It's essential that every channel has a very clear identity and sense of itself." So, come September, we can expect a coherent, united ITV and a distinct portfolio of self-aware Sky channels. If only it were that easy.

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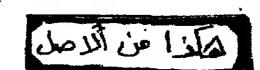
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Gary Lineker is a big fish in British crisps. But he's small fry overseas. By Meg Carter

Crunch time for Walkers crisps

captured the attention of an ever-excitable advertising industry last week. Gary Lineker, the star of Walkers crisps' popular "Nn More Mr Nice Guy" advertising campaign, was at the centre of the shock £11m transfer of Walkers' advertising account from the London agency BMP DDB to rival AMV BBDO.

"Just what do you have to do to keep hold of an advertising account nowadays?" industry stalwarts muttered in despair. For BMP, which won the Walkers business four years ago, had been widely praised for the Lineker ads that kicked off in January 1995. So successful seemed the relationship that BMP subsequently won Walkers' sister brands Quakers and Doritos (ironically, from AMV) without a pitch.

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BMP's Walkers campaign has become an advertising classic. Remember the one when Gary steals a bag of crisps from a small boy? And the one where he makes Paul Gascoigne cry; the Swedish movie spoof with Ulrika Jonsson; the double-Gentendre-packed Spice Girls commoves like this which you can do mercial; the World Cup ad featuring nothing about," says DMB&B's the Brazilian football ace Romario -naked? "The global forces of Pepsi-Co have, in all likelihood, put an end to such gems," the industry maga-

zine Campaign lamented last week. Today, as BMP licks its wounds, it is clear that the London agency

has fallen foul of a creeping trend. Walkers - whose owner, Frito-Lay, is a division of the multinational giant PepsiCo - is but one piece in an international chess game. For the past 11 months, PepsiCo has been globally realigning its \$200m world-wide advertising business. In plain English this means moving all advertising into a single, world-wide advertising agency network – in this case AMV's parent, BBDO, based in New York. "Exactly the same thing happened to us with Nike," says Paul Simons, chief executive of TBWA Simons Palmer. The sports brand reently dropped the UK agency in favour of Wieden & Kennedy, its agency in the US which opened a them [the 'Park Life' commercial featuring top football stars in a Sunday league knockabout] has won every award going this year."

Mr Simons commiserates with BMP but believes the agency is the victim of a growing trend. "It's down to where the centre of gravity within a company exists," he explains. As clients grow bigger and, increasingly, multinational, advertising agencies are having to follow suit. What hap-pens in the "lead" territory can have a dramatic knock-on effect in local markets elsewbere.

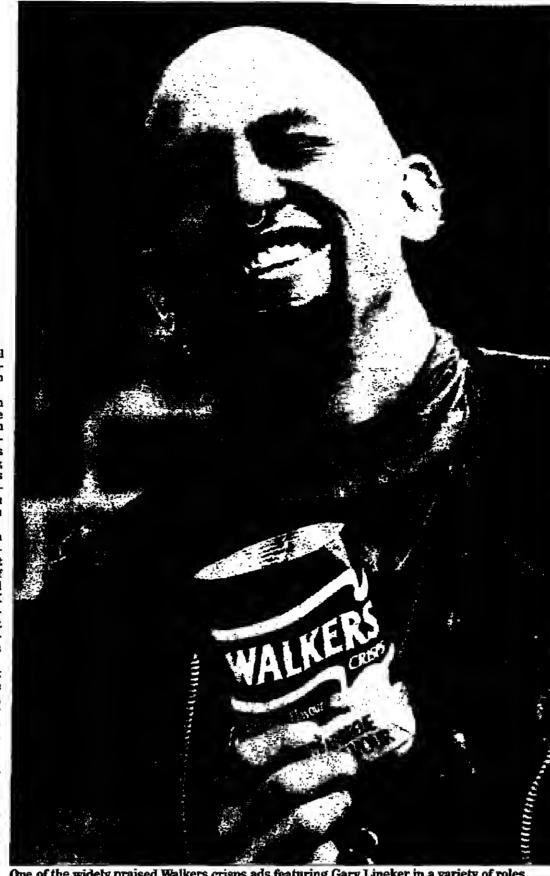
Which was just the case with DMB&B, which won the UK advertising account for Budweiser but lost it when the American owners of the brand switched to the rival agency DDB. As a result, DDB's UK agency BMP DDB was forced to resign the Scottish Courage account because of a conflict of interest. Neither DMB&B nor BMP DDB was happy with the outcome.

You can create great work that builds brands and sales and still lose the business - for political reasons, human relationships or bigger marketing director, Nigel Marsh.

The globalisation of international brands is a driving force. It may not make much sense to the consumer, but someone somewhere can sleep more peacefully knowing they've saved the company millions of pounds by putting all advertising through a single agency. Or by not having to print different packaging ior different countries - as dedicated consumers of Mars-owned Snickers (né Marathon) and Starbursts (né Opal Fruits) know only too well.

"Global companies now see brands as their key assets and chief executive officers see themselves as brand managers," BMP's UK managing director, Michael Bray, said last week. "The top people used to be involved in production and buying factories but now they want direct control of brands."

paign. Frito-Lay bosses are under-



One of the widely praised Walkers crisps ads featuring Gary Lineker in a variety of roles

despite their initial reservations the company reportedly had cold feet at first and instructed BMP to film two alternative endings: one where Lineker stole the crisps, the other where he gave them back.

ever, may still occur. Why? Frito-Lay's flat potato crisps are known as Walkers only in the UK; they have AMV is expected to continue local brand names in other countries. Lineker's popular Walkers cam- An ominous signal came with the recent decision to replace the product's stood to still want to use the "No local branding in Spain with its US irony is that the last work we did for More Mr Nice Guy" idea. And this brand name, Lay's.

Observers are sceptical. Global rebranding leads to global advertising campaigns. All too often others attempt to develop single creative strategies appropriate for all territories. It can be a lowest common de-A creative shift in strategy, how-nominator approach - as typified by the stomach-churning delights of the

Wrigley's chewing-gum campaign. There are exceptions. Coca-Cola, for one, has a tightly controlled global marketing strategy but a host of locally produced ads. And Unilever has adopted a similar approach across a number of its

brands. Even so, creeping globalisation is a trend viewed with mistrust by many adland creatives, who warn that it may well have an adverse affect on the ads we see.

For the time being there's no news of any plan to axe the Walkers brand in the UK. Which is why AMV can confidently say there's little chance of Walkers' advertising ever being produced in the US. Even so. the brand - which, thanks to Lineker, was named brand of the year at the ITV marketing awards in 1996 may yet find its days are numbered.

PITCH

AN ADVERTISING AGENCY AND A PR FIRM FIGHT IT OUT TO REVIVE THE AILING WOMEN'S MAGAZINE 'FRANK'

John Bacon, Executive Creative Director of FCB I had to look at the magazine fairly rigorously before I figured out who it was aimed at - and it should be obvious. It looks like the thirtysomething bracket, which is a bit of a nothing bracket.

I would look to the publication that twentysomethings are reading and is selling more than 70,000 copies a month and seek to bring Frank in line with that so that there is a link between what they used to read and what Frank is offering now.

At the moment I think it's fairly bland and generic. My wife is a bulk consumer of magazines, but she's never bought Frank. The strength of the offering is the name; it is tremendously powerful. It's going to sound terribly nbvious, but I would spend a lot of money very quickly, very visibly, mining the name for all it's worth. I'd attach an attitude to the name, as simply as possible - something like "You might as well be Frank".

The advertising would revolve around "being Frank". You could stick a picture of a gorgeous girl on a boarding with the line "She may as well be Frank". The meaning of it will depend on what she's doing, who she's doing it with, and why she's doing it. All those bits tell the story, and the line becomes the branding. The present strapline - "The new magazine for women" - is a product description. Where's the excitement in that?

I'd go for 15-sheet and 48sheet posters on prime sites. Ailing publications don't need long-term therapy; you have to fix things very quickly or your patient will be dead. I would seek to be controversial, outrageous - to set my agenda in a way clearly indicative of the magazine's attitude. It's what Cosmopoliton did when it launched, and everyone knows what Cosmo is about: it's about bow many orgasms can you have in one night "at it". Vogue is about clothes, Harpers & Queen is about your social life, Vanity Fair is about journalism, but Frank isn't about anything - yet.

Hilary Meacham, managing director of Focus PR When Frank was launched it mould of women's magazines and creating a style that was its own. So it's strange that it has struggled to find its place. Interestingly, when we called their advertising

department to get a profile of

who their readers are, they couldn't supply one - which might be where the problem is. Who are they writing for? They could do with some research to find their niche, and then expand on it.

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Once they've got some material from their research it'll give them clues as to which way they should go and who their readers are. I'm surprised they've been able to sell advertising without knowing who's buying it.

And it's still got the strapline "The new magazine for women", which has to go. We would come up with a new strapline - according to whatever they decide they are. Company has on its spine "For the freedom years", and that gives anyone a clear sign that it's either for them or it isn't. It isn't particularly obvinus, picking up Frank, who it's for

Then we would suggest a small redesign and re-establish it with a slightly new look. They could also get in a guest editor based on which figures the research showed their readers admired must.

We've found that the best way of promotion is radio, because the reader identifies with the voice, Nicky Campbell has a phone-in show on Radio 5 Live, and if there was a story that interested Frank readers, the editor could go on and take a strong stance. If the research shows that Frank readers spend their money in a certain store, then you could target readers through that store's card or cash desk.

What Frank may have got wrong is distribution. They distributed too many to Sainsbury's and Safeways and too few to newsagent chains. I would buy a magazine at a was acclaimed for breaking the Tube kiosk, because I think it's part of dashing around, being in London; I would not buy it at 9pm in a supermarket. I think the product's strong; they've just got to get the focus right.

Interviewa by Scott Hughes

TEL: 0171 293 2222

London office two months ago. "The

APPOINTMENTS: MEDIA, MARKETING, SALES

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EUROPEAN AND MIDDLE EASTERN

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The Company wants to recruit two exhibition sales staff to promote shows in Europe, Eastern Europe, Cairo and Dubai. The positions are based in London, but the sell will be to any company in a given exhibition's trading sector. This company and its parent have a global network of offices - approximately 40 in 28 countries - which serves as a helpful resource in targeting exhibitors. Ideally candidates will have experience in exhibition or media sales, but the company is prepared to train if your sales experience is in another market or if you have not sold previously.

OTE £35-40k, basic to £24k. Based in London

The job should be interesting to anyone who is working for an exhibition or publishing business that lacks ambition, vision or capital, or where rewards are effectively capped. Whether or not you have experience of exhibition or media markets, or sales in general, you should be determined, persuasive, restless, imaginative and prepared to take risks. The exhibition market is inventive and at its best entertaining as well as commercial.

For those candidates not familiar with the market, the counterparties in the development and sale of trade exhibitions include exhibiting companies, trade associations and government trade and industry representatives, both from the UK and the countries where the exhibitions are based. If you have not sold before, you must at least have paid some fees of experience in business. The minimum age will be about 24 years.

Please call Theo Stegers or Nancy Waltman today. Do not send your CV yet.

Recruitment Matters, 13-15 Great Eastern Street, London EC2A 3EJ Telephone: 0171-377 1600, Fax: 0171-377 1801 E-mail: theo@rml.simplyonline.co.uk.

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We want to strengthen our sales and marketing team to support this growth and have opportunities for three young executives to grow the company at the same time as developing exciting careers in high growth areas of the healthy food market.

Marketing Manager - International

Jordans Export business has more than doubled over the last five years and we are no.3 in the breakfast cereals market in France and the Netherlands. In 1997 we received the Queens Award for Exports. We need an energetic individual with a blue chip marketing background and experience of working outside the U.K. to take on the new role of Marketing Manager International to manage our key territories as well as spearhead the strategic solution and development of new markets.

Marketing Manager-Snacks

Our Snack business has doubled in the last five years, we lead the Cereal Bar category and, in the last eighteen months, have also launched Savoury Snacks. We require an experienced marketing professional to head up this category, which includes branded and own label products, and who will be responsible for every element of the marketing mix, including advertising, sampling and NPD.

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We are looking for someone with at least two years of National Account experience within the Top 5 Grocery Accounts. Probably a graduate, you will need to have worked with an acknowledged brand in FM.C.G. and have a knowledge of Own Label Development and Category Management skills.

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Please send your C.V. and salary details to: Bill Jordan, Chairman, W Jordan (Cereals) Limited, Holme Mills, Biggleswade,

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0181 799 2500 or alternatively fax your CV to 0181 799 2504.



TRAINEE MEDIA PLANNER/BUYERS

Optimedia, one of the UK's top ten advertising media specialists, is looking for graduates for three positions as trainees in its London office, to start on September 1st.

The successful applicants need not have a specifically media-based degree, but a minimum class of 2:1 will be stipulated.

Requirements include good numeracy, a strong work ethic, the ability to work in a team, computer literacy and confident communication skills.

The positions are based in Central London and involve a period of intensive training across all aspects of UK media planning, before employment on a range of 'blue chip' client accounts.

Submit your c.v. together with around 250 words on any aspect of the UK's expanding media marketplace (e.g. the proliferation of satellite and cable TV, the increase in men's lifestyle magazines, etc.) to the address below by no later than Monday 22nd June. First round interviews will be conducted during July.

Gus Annetts, Optimedia UK, 84-86 Baker Street, London W1M 1DL

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elso have at least 5 years experience in sales and marketing of software development products with multinational IT companies

In the first instance any interested candidate should send their full CV to Mr Stephen Laing, Technical Director, Square D Europe Plc, Technology Transfer Centre, Silwood Park, Buckhurst Road, Ascot, SL57PW.

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INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

Deputy Editor Sunday Review

The Independent on Sunday has a vacancy for a Deputy Editor working on its much-imitated colour magazine. This is a senior editorial position and the successful candidate is likely to have wide-ranging interests and a proven track record in magazine journalism. Previous commissioning experience is essential.

To apply please send a current CV quoting reference IND001 with a daytime telephone number and salary details to: Personnel Manager, 18th Floor, The Independent, One Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London, E14 5DL.

Closing date for applications is June 19th 1998.

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For further details and an application form please send a postcard to LGIU, 1-5 Bath Street, London EC1V 9QQ or fax us on 0171 253 7406 or e mail igiu@geo2.poptel.org.uk

The closing date for applications is Friday 19th June. Interviews will be held in the week beginning 29th June 1998.

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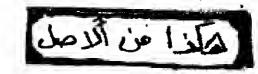
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PAX: 0171 291 28

NEW FILMS

Nowhere (18) Director: Gregg Araki Stairring: James Duval, Rachel True, Nathan Bexton Shannon Doherty

One-man film factory Gregg Araki returns to the nihilistic landscape of Totally F***ed Up and The Doom Generation with another hallucinatory journey through an LA underground inhabited by young ambisexual drifters, sado-masochists, druggies, airheads - and, this time around, a few aliens for good measure.

It's good to see the elegantly wasted James Daval, as alienated teen Dark Smith, returning to his low-budget roots with Araki after a starring role in Independence Day. Intoxicating stuff.

Red Corner (15) Director: Jon Avnet

Starring: Richard Gere, Bai Ling, Bradley Whitford

Richard Gere usually exercises a bit of discrimination when choosing his projects, but his very public pro-Tibet stance must have hinded him to the failings of this clunking niece of anti-Chinese propaganda.

In Beijing to sell trashy American TV programmes to a Chinese network, Gere finds himself framed for murder and railroaded by the brutal legal system. But the insights Red Corner offers into the Chinese brand of totalitarianism are swamped by the clichéd depiction of ruthless party cadres (they practically say "We have ways of making you talk") and repetitive courtroom scenes, which mostly revolve around the issue of whether Gere can hear the simultaneous translation of proceedings through his headset.

Dad Savage (18)

Director: Betsan Morris Evans Starring: Patrick Stewart, Kevin McKidd, Helen McCrory, Joe McFadden, Marc Warren

Patrick Stewart sheds his Stor Trek image to play Dad Savage, a tulip-growing, Country & Westernobsessed East Anglian crime boss who burns very nasty indeed when two of his employees try to run

off with his life savings.

Strikingly shot in the bleak expanses of the Lincolnshire fens by first-time director Betsan Morris Evans, this is an original stab at re-inventing the British thriller. There are strong performances, but a Usual Suspects-inspired structure of flashbacks within flashbacks conspires to make a raw, brutal little story frustratingly hard

The Taste of Cherry (PG) Director: Abbas Kiarostami

Starring: Homayon Ershadi, Adolhossein Bagheri, Afshin Bakhtiari

The joint winner of last year's Palme d'Or has taken a year to get a release over here, and it's not hard to see why. In precis - an Iranian man drives around the outskirts of Tehran looking for someone to help him commit suicide - it sounds like the average multiplex-goer's worst nightmare of an art movie.

But thanks to highly naturalistic performances and the purity of director Abbas Kiarostami's shooting style, it's a hypnotic and ultimately moving experience, so long as you can adjust

The Wedding Singer (12) See Recommendation, right

Hurricane Streets (15)

Director: Morgan J Freeman Starring: Brendan Sexton III, Shawn Elliot

Brendan Sexton III, who made an impression as the high-school bully in Welcome to the Dollhouse. is touchingly awkward as Marcus, a 15-year-old on the mean streets of New York, whose criminal lifestyle is offset by an almost saintly care for the no-hopers in his gang.

But despite raw performances from the young unknowns, gritty detail and a sheaf of awards from the Sundance Film Festival - the film never steers sufficiently clear from the usual kids and crime clichés.

John Wrathall

GENERAL RELEASE

AFTERGLOW (15)

Two couples - fiftysomethings Nick Nolte and Julie Christie, and twentysomethings Lara Flynn Boyle and Jonny Lee Miller - swap partners and wry aphorisms in the latest urbane romantic comedy from writer-director Alan Rudolph.

(MANASTASIA (U)

In this new animated feature, all geographical identity has been jettisoned along with historical accuracy—and for that matter sanity logic and good taste. Anastasia is as bullying and unruly as Disney animation at its worst,

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18)

"Dude" Lebowski (Jeff Bridges) is a long-haired relic from the 1970s who spends his days bumming around Los Angeles getting stoned and going bowling with his buddies. But there's another Lebowski in the vicinity and a case of mistaken identity sparks off one of the most strung-out mysteries ever

BLUES BROTHERS 2000 (PG)

Eighteen years after the release of the startlingly unduring The Blues Brothers, John Landis and his co-writer Dan Aykroyd have contrived to resurrect the story of Elwood Blues (Aykroyd) who, after the death of his brother, re-emerges from prison and decides to put the old band back together. The film is certainly all-out stupid, but it is also rather rendearing.

THE BUTCHER BOY(15) Neil Jordan's film of Patrick McCabe's blackly comic novel about a manic, precocious 12 year old 191960s Ireland has a macabre thrill about it that is genuinely seductive. Jordan's depiction of the world as seen through the deranged eyes of young Francie (the astounding Eamonn Owens) is so rich and unsparing that it pulls you into the movie in the manner of a Grimm fairytale.

Alex Proyas, director of The Crow, returns with with another over-the-top urban nightmare. Amnesiac suspected serial-killer Rufus Sewell is pursued by dour inspector William Hurt, syringe welding psychiatrist Kiefer Sutherland and Richard O'Brien as one of a sinister breed of aliens known as 'The Strangers'.

DECONSTRUCTING HARRY (18) Woody Allen's most honest and intelligent film in more than a decade.

DEEP IMPACT (12)

A meteor the size of New York is on a collision course with the Earth unless superstar astronaut Robert Duvall and his team can intercept it. Ropey characterisation and the complete absence of wit or energy are only the worst things about this heavy-handed disaster movie.

FISTS IN THE POCKET (NC) A new print of Marco Bellochio's 1965 classic.

THE GENERAL (15) John Boorman's best film in two decades charts the career of Dublin gangster Martin Cahill, who ran rings round the Gardai with a series of heists before the IRA put him out of business in 1994.

THE HANGING GARDEN (15) Gay hero, Sweet William, returns home for the wedding of his sister (Kerry Fux), who is marrying the boy that William once had a crush on, in this disarming drama.

HAPPY TOGETHER (15) Giddy tour of modern urban life, structured around the violently unpredictable romance between two

men who arrive in Argentina from Hong Kong, and fall into a cycle of breaking up and making up. JACKIE BROWN (15)

In Jackie Brown, the eponymous flight attendant (Pam Grier) and mobster Ordell (Samuel L Jackson) whom she's moonlighting for take centre stage. But the movie's main focus is the desperation of each of its characters to make something of their lives before it's too late.

A novel by Ruth Rendell is the unlikely origin of Pedro Almodovar's most accomplished film to date. The action has been shifted to Madrid and crammed with sexual symbolism so potent it leaves you reeling.

LOLITA 18) Adrian Lyne's remake of Kubrick's stylish Nabokov adaptation lacks spirit and adventure.

LOVE ETC (15) The meandering French drama stars Charlotte Gainsbourg as a woman torn between her husband and his best friend,

THE MAGNIFICENT AMBERSONS A welcome re-release for Orson Wells' 1942 nearmasterpiece about a wealthy family whose conflicting emotions tear them apart.

MARTHA - MEET FRANK, DANIEL & LAURENCE (15)

This intermittently engaging romantic comedy sees Martha, an American visiting London on a whim, going on separate dates with three men who turn out to be best friends.

MY SON THE FANATIC (15)

Hanif Kurelshi establishes an opposition between an agreeable, progressive Pakistani taxi driver and his son, who has his sights set on becoming a

ONCE UPON A TIME... WHEN WE WERE COLORED (NC) Nostalgic look back to life in 1940s Mississippi

THE REAL BLONDE (15)

Tom Dicillo's prickly satire on the fashion inclustry doesn't have enough original or incidental ideas, but it is charmingly played by a game cast, and littered with surprises and fizzy one-liners.

SLIDING DOORS (15) A romantic comedy set in the space-time continuum, sending its beroine, Gwyneth Paltrow, off into two separate realities at the same time, with two different suitors (John Hannah and John Lynch). Just what the world

needed: a humorous reinterpretation of Kieslowski's Blind Chance. STAR KID (PG) Amiable children's adventure about a young boy (Joseph Mazello from Jurassic Park) who's

called upon to save the universe. What it lacks in budget it makes up for in imagination. Rose (Kate Winslet) is about to merry into obscene wealth, but has deserted her fiance at the last minute for Jack (Leonardo DiCaprio), a

ragamuffin from the wrong side of the tracks. LES VOLEURS (18)

Intriguing and complex French thriller with the fine Daniel Auteuil as a seedy cop who becomes involved with a case implicating a teacher (Notherina Danesan) and her learning to the learning that the learning the learning that t (Catherine Deneuve) and her lover.

WASHINGTON SQUARE (PG) Bringing up the rear of the latest Henry James boom comes the story of the mousy New York heiress (Jennifer Jason Leigh) whose dour father (Albert Finney) forbids her marriage to a dashing but penniless suitor (Ben Chaplin).

WESTERN(15) An amiable and beguiling road movie which begins with the weaselly thief Nino making off with a car belonging to Paco, and which then becomes one of the most unlikely buddy movies

in recent memory.

WILD THINGS(18) Relentlessly sleazy thriller from John McNaughton Matt Dillon is the teacher accused of rape by two female students, and drawn into a plot that ripples with double- and triple-crosses

An intoxicating, gleefully ugly picture that has An intersecting statice.

WEST END NUMBERS

(0171 except where noted; Some agents may levy a booking fee). ABC Piccadilly 287 4322;

ABC Baker St 0870-902 0418; ABC Panton St 0870-902 0404; ABC Shaftesbury Ave 0870-902 0402; ABC Swiss Centre 0870-902 0403; ABC Tottenham Court Rd 0870-902 0414; Barbican 638 8891; Chelsea 351 3742; Clapham Picture House 498 3323; Curzon Mayfair 369 1720; Curson Mine ma 369 1723; Curzon Phoenix

369 1721; Curzon West End 369 1722; Empire Leicester Sq 0990-888990; Gate Notting Hill 727 4043; Metro 734 1506; Notting Hill Coronet 727 6705; Odeon Camden Town 0181-315 4229: Odeon Haymarket 0181-315 4212; Odeon Kensington 0181-315 4214; Odeon Leicester Sq 0181-315 4215; Odeon Marble Arch 0181-315 4216; Odeon Mezzanine 0181-315 4215; Odeon Swiss Cottage 0181-315 4220; Odeon West End 0181-315

4221; Phoenix 0181-444 6789; Plaza 0990-838990; Renoir 837 8402; Richmond Filmhouse 0181-332 0030; Ritzy 733 2229; Screen on Baker St 935 2772; Screen on the Green 226 3520; Screen on the Hill 435 3366; UCI Whiteleys 0990-888 990; Virgin Chelsea 0870-907 0710; Virgin Fulbam Road 0870 907 0711; Virgin Haymarket 0870-907 0712; Virgin Trocadero 0870-907 0716; Warner Village West End 437 4343

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS



Film Ryan Gilbey

Frank Capra might have loved The Wedding Singer (left) - those cosy small-town values. that sweet rapport between the waitress (Drew Barrymore) and the weekend crooner (Adam Sandler) so wrecked at being dumped at the altar by his previous girlfriend that when be is called upon to perform Madonna's "Holiday" he has to snarl the words through gritted teeth. The movie is prickly in places, charmingly goofy in others and peppered with delicious cameos from among

others, Steve Buscemi and Alexis Arquette. On general release.

Neil Jordan's second feature The Company of Wolves is an over-ripe adult fairytale whose cerie timelessness has prevented it from dating the movie's daring can still make you giddy. Look out for the Ballet Rambert dancer Micha Bergese as the big bad wolf and Terence Stamp appearing briefly as the Devil rolling through the woods in a chauffeur-driven limousine. Ultimate Picture Palace, Oxford (01865 245288)

Theatre Dominic Cavendish

The play that took the Edinburgh Festival by storm last year finally arrives in the West End today. **Disco Pigs**, Enda Walsh's exuberantly performed tale of a pair of teenagers out on the razzle-dazzle in Pork City – the fictional twin of Walsh's native Cork - is as beguiling as it is baffling. Pig (Cillian Murphy) and Runt (Eileen Walsh) communicate in their own oinky baby language and dream of a Tamworth Two-style escape from the deadly adult world that awaits them.

Arts Theatre, Great Newport St, London, WC2 (0171-836 2132) 8pm The Playhouse has struck gold with Steve

Brown and Justin Greene's Spend, Spend, Spend!, a musical based on the life of Viv Nicholson, the Castleford housewife who honoured her pledge to "spend, spend, spend" after she won the first Pools megajackpot in 1962. It might be a heavy-handed cautionary tale for these Lottery-crazed times, but the cracking times and cheeky lyrics pay due homage to the complexities of a woman who dared to live for the day. West Yorkshire Playhouse, Leeds (0113-213 7700) 7.30pm



Pop Tim Perry

Just for the record. Scott 4 (right) have only three core members, but tonight they appear as a nine-piece with fiddle, pedal steel, flute and synth added to create their topsy-turvy vision of urban versus rural music. Fronted by Scott Blixen (a man who can carry off wearing a Stetson and Di Kappa at the same time), these north London cowboys will be appearing at the

major festivals and have the fine swaggering "Your Kingdom to Dust" single released later this month on V2.

100 Club, London W1 (0171-636 0933). The current wave of neo-ska bands in the USA owe much to California's Rancid, who have been combining their passion for old-skool ska and power punk since 1990. A product of the underground scene in Berkeley, from which Green Day and MrT Experience also come, Rancid as ever promise a hardhitting and colourful show. Tonight's gig is one of only two UK appearances and they'll be playing material from their upcoming Life Won't World album.

Comedy James Rampton

Compering live comedy is an underrated art. You have to be funny - but not so funny as to detract from the performer you're introducing. Arthur Smith is just about the best in the business when it comes warming up an audience without stealing the thunder of the rest of the bill. He will be displaying these talents tonight at the

London Regional Final of the BBC New Comedy Awards. Cosmic Comedy Club, London W6

Rock City, Nottingham (0115 941 2554).

(0171-381 2006) To no one's surprise, Steve Coogan (right) last month picked up a Bafta for his

exquisite performance as Alan Partridge, the former TV chat show host trapped in travel-lodge hell. In Coogan's first live show for some years, Partridge is joined on stage by the comedian's other deathless inventions, the endlessly student-hating "bag'o'shite"

Mancurian yob, Paul Calf, and his slapper of a sister, Pauline, and the slimy Latino Lotherio singer, Tony Ferrino.

North Wales Theatre, Llandudno (01492 872000)

CINEMA WEST END

AFTERGLOW (15) Screen on Baker Street 2.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm Ctapham Picture House 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Phoenix Cinema 3.45pm, 8.45pm Odeon Haymarket 2pm, 6pm, 8.35pm (+ Short: Stung) Screen on the Green 3.35pm, 8.35pm

AMISTAD (15) Odeon Camdes Town 1,55pm, 5.15pm, 8.30pm

AS GOOD AS IT GETS (15) Virgio Fulliant Road 6pm, 9.10pm ABC Pauton Street 2pm, 5pm, 8pm

THE BIG LEBOWSKI (18) Warner Village West End 1pm, 3.50pm, 9.30pm UCI Wisheleys 6.10pm ABC Panton Street 1.15pm, 3.40pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Virgin Felham Road 1.30pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.30pm ABC Tettenbaro Court Road 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.20pm Screen on the Brees 6.10cm Phoenix Cinema 6.15cm

BLUES BROTHERS 2000 (PG) Empire Laicester Square 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 6.20pm, 9pm

DAD SAVAGE (18) Warner Village West End 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm ABC Piccadilly

1.15pm, 3.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm DARK CITY (15) Pitzy Chiana 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 8.45pm, 9.10pm Plaza 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 5pm

11.55am, 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 7pm, 9.20pm UCI Whiteleys 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm Odeon Canden Town 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.05pm Virgin Trocadero 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.45pm, 7pm, 9.20pm Odeon Martie Arch 11.40am, 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.10pm, 9.40pm DECONSTRUCTING

HARRY (18) ABC Shaftesbury Avenue 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 8.20pm, 8.50pm

DEEP BEPACT (12) UCI Whiteleys 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.15pm Virgin Trecadero 12ncon, 2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.40pm Empire Leicester Square 12ncon, 3pm, 6pm, 9pm Virgin Fulham Road 12.30pm, 3.25pm, 6.10pm, 8.55pm Odeos Marble Arch 12.10pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.50cm

THE GENERAL (15)
Warner Village West End 5.50pm, 8.40pm UCI Whiteleys 3.05pm, 6.20pm Virgin Haymarket 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Ritzy Cinema 3.10pm, 6pm, 8.50pm; (+ Q & A with John Beoman + Two Nudes Bathing) Notting Hill Coroset 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm Odeon Canden Town 12.05pm, 2.55pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm Virgin Folham Road 12.20pm, 3.10pm, 6pm, 9pm

GEORGE OF THE JUNGLE (U) Rão Cloems 4.15pm GOOD WILL HUNTING (15)

ABC Panton Street 2.10pm, 5.15pm, THE HANGING GARDEN (15) ABC Piccadily 1.35pm, 3.50pm,

6.10pm, 8.45pm HAPPY TOGETHER (15) Rio Cinema 6.15pm ABC Swiss Centre 3.10pm, 7.10pm

HURRICANE STREETS (15) Virgis Haymarket 1pm, 4pm, 6.30pm,

JACKIE BROWN (15) Plaza 12.50pm KUNDUN (12)

ABC Shaftesbury Avenue 2011 L.A. CONFIDENTIAL (18) ABC Panton Street 2pm, 5pm, 8pm

Corzon West End 1.30pm. 4pm. 8.30pm, 9pm Virgin Cheisea 2pm, 5pm, 8pm Odeon Camden Town 12noon, 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9.10pm Pitzy Cinema 7pm (+ Short Magic Moments)
Sate Nothing Hill 9.05pm Carzon
Minema Spm, 5pm, 7pm, 9pm Screen
on the Hill 6.45pm Richmond Filmhouse 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

LOLITA (18) Virgin Haymarket 8.15pm Warner Village Wast End 11.40am, 2.25pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm Odeon Kensington 6.10pm, 9.15pm

MARTHA - MEET FRANK, DANIEL & LAURENCE (15) Virgle Cheisea 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm Odeon Kensington 7.20pm, 9.35pm Odeon West End 4.05pm, 8.50pm

MY SON THE FANATIC (15) ABC Swiss Centre 1.20pm, 5.20pm,

NOWHERE (18) Metro 3pm, 7pm, 9pm

THE REAL BLONDE (15) Metro 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm ABC Swiss Centre 1.10pm, 3.25pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm

RED CORNER (15) Virgin Trocadero 12.30pm, 3.20pm, 6pm, 8.50pm UCI Whiteleys 3.30pm, 6.15pm, 9.25pm Plaza 12.30pm, 3.10pm, 5.50pm, 8.50pm Virgin Fulliana Road 12.15pm, 3pm, 5.55pm, 8.45pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.25pm, 3.15pm, 6.10pm, 9.15pm

THE REPLACEMENT

Virgin Trocadero 12noon, 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Virgin Chaisea 2.45pm, 3.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm UCI Whiteleys 2.30pm, 4.55pm, 7.15pm, 9.45pm

SCREAM 2 (18) Warner Village West End 12.40pm, 3.30pm, 8.10pm, 8.50pm Virgin Trocadero 12noon, 2.50pm, 8.10pm, 9pm SHALL WE DANCE? (PG) ABC Swiss Centre 1.10om, 3.35om,

SLIDING DOORS (15) Virgin Trocadero 12.10pm, 2.25pm, 4.40pm, 6.55pm, 9.25pm Ritzy Cinema 2.20pm, 4.40pm, 9.20pm UCI Whiteleys 3.15pm, 6pm, 8.30pm ABC Baker Street 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 5.10pm, 8.40pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.25pm, 4.05pm, 6.45pm, 9.25pm Virgin Fulham Road 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Empire Leicester Square 12.20pm, 2.40pm, 5.30pm,

SMILLA'S FEELING FOR SNOW (15) Phoenix Cinema 1.15pm

THE TASTE OF CHERRY Renoir 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 8.40pm, B.50cm

Warner Village West End 12noon, 4pm, 8pm Plaza 2pm, 7pm U.S. MARSHALS (15) Warner Village West End 11,35sm, 2,30pm, 5,30pm, 8,30pm

LES VOLEURS (18) Ritzy Cinema 2pm

WASHINGTON SQUARE (PG) Barbicae Screen 6.15pm, 8.40pm Renair 3.50pm, 6.15pm, 8.40pm Screen as Baker Street 3.15pm, 6.20cm, 8.45cm Hitzy Cinema 4.10cm, 6.35pm, 9pm Virgin Haymarket 12.45pm, 3pm, 6.15pm Screen on the Hill 3.45pm, 8.45pm Gate Motting Hill 1.50pm, 4.15pm, 6.40pm Curzon Mayfair 12.45pm, 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.35pm Clapham Picture House 1,45pm, 4,10pm, 6,40pm, 9,10pm Virgin Fulham Road 12.40pm, 3.20pm eises Ciaema 1.10pm, 3.40pm,

6.10pm, 8.40pm THE WEDDING SINGER (12) Odeon Caraden Tewn 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 9pm Odeon West End 1.30pm, 3.55pm, 8.25pm, 8.45pm ABC Baker Street 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Odeon Keasington 7.10pm, 9.40pm Clapham Picture House 1.15pm, 3.15pm, 5.15pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm ABC Tottenham Court Road 1.30pm, 4.15pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm Rkzy Cinema 2.25pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05om Barbican Screen 6.30pm, 8.40pm Virgin Cheisen 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.30pm, 8pm UCI Whiteleys 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 9pm Odeon Marble Arch 11.45am, 2.15pm, 4.45pm,

7.15om, 9.50om WESTERN (15) Rin Cinoma 8.25pm ABC Swiss

Company of the Control of the Contro

WILD THINGS (18) Odeon West End 1.20pm, 6.20pm Odeon Marble Arch 12.10pm, 3.05pm, 5.55pm, 8.50pm UCI Whiteleys 3.20pm, 9.10pm

WISHMASTER (18) Warner Village West End 12.20pm, 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm UCI Whiteleys 9.40pm Virght Tracadero 12.30pm, 2.40pm, 4.50pm, 7pm,

> **CINEMA** LONDON LOCALS

ACTON

PARK ROYAL WARNER
VILLAGE (0181-896 0066) & Park
Royal Dark City 2pm, 4.30pm, 6.50pm,
9.10pm Deep tarpact 1pm, 3.40pm,
6.20pm, 9.20pm MouseHunt 1.20pm,
3.30pm Hed Corner 1.40pm, 4.20pm,
7pm, 9.40pm The Replacement Killers
1.10pm, 3.20pm, 5.30pm, 7.40pm,
9.55pm Scream 2 1.20pm, 4pm,
9.55pm Scream 2 1.20pm, 4pm,
9.55pm Scream 2 1.20pm, 4pm, 6.40pm, 9.30pm Bissing Doors 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Titanic 2.10pm, 6pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.55pm Wild Things 10.05pm Wishmaster 1.20pm,

3.30pm, 5.50pm, 8pm

BARKING ODEON (0181-507 8444) & Barking Blues Brothers 2000 12.45pm. m, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Dad Savage 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm Dark City 2.20pm, 4.30pm, 6.40pm, 8.50pm **Deep** Impact 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm **MouseHunt** 12.55pm, 2.55pm, 4.55pm The Wedding Singer 12.15pm, 2.25pm, 4.35pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm Wishmaster 7pm, 9pm

BARNET ODEON (0181-315 4210) & High Barnet The Bly Lebowski 2.35pm, 5.40pm, 8.15pm Bark City 1.50pm 4.05pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm; Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.10pm, 8.30pm Silding Doors 1.55pm, 4.20pm, 6.45pm, 8.55pm9pm The Wedding Singer 1.40pm, 3.55pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm

BECKENHAM ABC (0870 9020412) BR: Beckenham Junction The Butcher Boy 6pm Deep Impact 2.25pm, 8.30pm Sliding Doors 2.30pm, 5.50pm, 8.25pm The Wedding

Singer 1.25pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm ODEON (0181-315 4211) BR: Bromley North/Bromley South Deep Impact 12noon,2.50pm, 5.40pm, 8.30pm L.A. Confidential 1.25pm, 4.25pm, 8.25pm Sliding Dnnrs 2.15pm, 4.30pm, 6.45pm, 9pm The Wedding Singer

1.45pm, 4,10pm, 6.35pm, 9pm CATEORD ABC (0181-698 3306) BR: Cations. The Wedding Singer 1.15pm, 3.45pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

CROYDON CLOCKTOWER (0181-253 1030) BR: Croydon West/East Croydon Cuts -Croydon's Best Films Of '98 12noon, 1.45pm, 3.30pm, 7pm, 9.15pm Washington Square 3.45pm, 6.40pm,

SAFARI (0181-688 3422) BR: West

Croydon, Blaes Brothers 2000 5.45pm.

8pm Deep Impact 5pm, 8.35pm

hmaster 6pm, 8.30pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-680 8090) BR: East Croydon Dark City 2.20pm, 4.35pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm Deep Impact 3.30pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm Red Corner 1.50pm, 4.25pm, 7pm, 9.50pm The Replacement Killers 2.05pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Scream 2 4.15pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Sliding Doors 45pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Titanic 2pm The Wedding Singer 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.40pm, 8.55pm Wishmaster 2.50pm,

5.05pm, 7.10pm, 9.15pm DAGENHAM

WARNER VELLAGE (0181-592 2020) O Dagenham Healthway Blues Brothers 2000 6.30pm Dark City 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.10pm Deep Impact 2pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.40pm Red Corner 2.10pm, 4.40pm, 7.15pm, 9.50pm The Replacement Killers 2.05pm, 4.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.30pm, 10.30pm Scream 2 3.30pm, 9pm Silding Doors 2.20pm, 4.45pm, Centre 2.10pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm 7.30pm, 10pm Titanic 2pm, 6pm The

Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm Wild Things 10pm Wishmaster 3,10pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm,

VIRGIN UXBRIDGE ROAD

(0870-9070719) BR/+ Faling Broadway

EALING

Deep Impact 3.10pm, 6.10pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 1.40pm, 4.10pm, 6.40pm, 9.10pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm, 4pm, 6.30pm, 9pm Wildle 2.15pm, 5.45pm, 8.20pm **EDGWARE** BELLE-YUE (0181-381 2556) O Edgware Aunty No.1 Phone for details Blues Brothers 2000 Phone for details The Borrowers Phone for details Deep

Impact 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 8.20pm Jab

Pyar Kissie Hota Hail Phone for details

MouseHunt Phone for details Pyaar Kiya

To Darna Kya Phone for details Salaakhen Phone for details

EDMONTON LEE VALLEY UCI 12 (0990-888990) Tottenham Hale Anastasia 4.30pm Blues Brothers 2000 4.10pm Dad Savagn 3.10pm, 6.20pm, 8.55pm, 11.20pm Dark City 8.35pm Deep Im-pact 3.45pm, 6.30pm, 9.40pm, 12.30am Deplicate 5.20pm The General 7.30pm Hurricane Streets 3.20pm, 8.25pm, 11.15pm Jackie Brown 6.40pm Martina Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 6pm 3.35pm, 6.20pm, 9.05pm, 12midnight The Replacement Killers 4,40pm 7.20pm, 10.05pm, 12.10am Scream 2 9.55pm, 12.35am Sliding Doors 4pm, 6.50pm, 9.15pm, 11.40pm Titanic 4.20pm, 8.15pm U.S. Marshats 7pm The Wedding Singer 3pm, 5.40pm, 8.45pm, 11.30pm Wild Things 9.50pm,

12.45am Wishmaster 9.25pm, 11.45pm **ELEPHANT AND**

CASTLE CORONET (0171-703 4968) ← Behant & Castle Dad Savage 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Beep Impact 3.20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm Titaole 3.10pm, 7.10cm

FELTHAM CINEWORLD

THE MOVIES (0181-867 0555) BR: Feltham Austy No.1 12.30pm, 4pm The Blg Lebowski 5.10pm, 9.55pm Blues Brothers 2000 11.20am, 2pm, 4.40pm, 7.30pm The Cestie 8pm Dad Savage 1.10pm, 5.30pm, 9.50pm Dark City 12.30pm, 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.30pm, 9.50pm Deep Impact 12noon, 2.45pm, 5.20pm, 7.50pm, 10.20pm Dup 2.30pm, 5.40pm Dushman 1 1am, 9pm Hurrigage Streets 11am, 3.20pm 7.40pm Jab Pyar Klasie Hota Hai 6.10pm, 9.30pm The Land Girls 2.10pm Mad City 9.55pm Marthe - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 11.50am, 2.30pm, 7.30pm Mimile 9.50pm The Object Of My Affection 7.30om Red Corner 11.30am, 2pm, 4.30pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm The Replocement Killers 12noon, 2pm, 4pm, 6pm, 8pm, 10pm Sertians Dami Guru Gebind Singh 12noon, 3.30pm Scream 2 11.40am. 2.10pm, 4.30pm, 7pm, 9.25pm Six Days, Seven Mights 4.40pm, 7.30pm Sliding Doors 12.10pm, 2.30pm. ing Doors 12.10pm, 2.30pm. 4.50pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Soul Food 8pm, 10.10pm A Thousand Acres 3.20pm Titanic 12noon, 4pm, 8pm The Wedding Singer 11.25am, 1.30pm, 3.30pm, 5.30pm, 7.30pm, 9.30pm Wild Tidags 10pm Wishmaster 8pm, 10pm

FINCHLEY WARNER VILLAGE (0181-446 9344) ← East Finchley/Finchley Central The Big Lebourski 7.05om Dark City 10.05am, 3.10pm, 5.25pm, 7.35pm Deep Impact 3.15pm, 6.05pm, 9pm Red Corner 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.30pm The Replacement Killers 2.50pm, 5.10pm, 7.20pm, 9.50pm Scream 2 1.45pm, 4.15pm, 9.40pm Sliding Doors 2.10pm, 4,40pm, 6.50pm, 9.20pm Titanic .40pm, 5.40pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.45pm

Wishmaster 10pm **GOLDERS GREEN** ABC (0181-455 1724) - Golders Green The Wedding Singer 1.45pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.35pm

GREENWICH

CINEMA (0181-293 0101) 8R: Greenwich Deep Impact 4.10pm, 8.45pm, 9.15pm The General 3.30pm, 8.15pm, 9.30pm Sliding Doors 6.30pm, 8.45pm Washington Square 4.20pm

HAMPSTEAD

ABC (0870-9020413) & Belsize Park Deep Impact 1.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm The Little Mermaid 1.45pm Sliding Doors 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Slager 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 6.20pm, 8.50pm HAMMERSMITH VIRGIN (0870-9070718) - Raven-

scourt Park/Hammersmith Deep Impact 3,20pm, 6pm, 9pm The Replacement Killers 2pm, 4,30pm, 6,45pm, 9pm Sliding Doors 3,40pm, 6,10pm, 8,40pm Star Kid 12,40pm The

Wedding Singer 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm HARROW SAFARI CINEMA (0181-426 0303) Harrow-on-the-Hill/Harrow & Wealdstone Duplicate 8.45pm Dushman

8,45pm WARNER VILLAGE (0181-427 9009) & Harrow on the Hill The Big Lebowski 9.20pm Blues Brothers 2000 12.40pm, 6pm Dark City 1.40pm, 4pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm Deep Impact 12.55pm, 3.30pm, 6.10pm, 8.50pm Hed Corner 1.05pm, 3.40pm, 6.25pm, 9pm The Replacement Killers 12.45pm, 2.55pm, 5.05pm, 7.15pm, 9.30pm Scream 2 3.20pm, 8.40pm Silding Boors 12,20pm, 2,35pm, 4,45pm, 7,25pm, 9,40pm Titanic 1.30pm, 5.30pm The Wedding Slager 12.30pm, 2.45pm, 4.55pm, 7.35pm, 9.50pm Wishmaster 12.10pm, 3.10pm,

HOLLOWAY ODEON (0181-315 4213) & Holloway Road/Archway Deep Impact 2.35pm, 6.05pm, 8.35pm The Wedning Singer 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9pm

5.15pm, 7.10pm, 9.10pm

ILFORD ODEON (0181-315 4223) & Gants fill Dad Savage 2.30pm, 5.20pm, 8,10pm Deep Impact 11,50am, 5,30pm Sliding Doors 1,40pm, 4pm, 6,20pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 8.30pm, 8.50pm The Wood-

landers 2,20pm, 4,40pm, 7pm, 9,05pm KINGSTON

ABC OPTIONS (0870-9020409) BR: Kingston Deep Impact 1.10pm, 3.50pm Sliding Doors 1.30pm, 3.50pm, 8.10pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.20pm Wishmaster 6.40 B.45

MUSWELL HILL

ODEON (315 4217) & Highgale Deep Impact 1pm, 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.35pm Sikiling Doors 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm The Weddi 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm, 9.05pm

PECKHAM PREMIER (0181-235 3006) BR: Peckham Rye The Big Lehowski 8.55pm Dad age 4.30cm, 6.45cm, 9cm Deep Impact 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm Red Cor ner 3.40pm, 6.10pm, 8.40pm The Replacement KWers 5.20pm, 7.20pm, 9.20pm Stiding Doors 5.05pm, 7pm

PURLEY BC (0870-9020407) BR: Puriey The Big Lebowski 5.15pm, 8.15pm Deep Impact 5.10pm, 8.10pm The Wedding Singer 5.40pm, 8.40pm PUTNEY

ABC (0870 9020401)
Putney Bridge: BR: Putney. The Big Lebowski 8.15pm Deep Impact 2.15pm, 5.15pm 6.15pm, 8.45pm The Wedding Slager

2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.45pm

RICHMOND ODEON STUDIO (0181-315 4218) BR/O Richmond Deep Impact 1pm, 3.40pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Martha Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence 1pm, 3pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Siliding Doors 1.10pm, 3.30pm, 7pm, 9.30pm The Wedding Singer 1.30pm,4pm,

ROMFORD

7pm, 9.30pm

ABC (0870-9020419) BR: Romland. Deep Impact 2.40pm, 5.40pm, 8.20pm Thanic 1.15pm, 5pm The Wedding Singer 1.35pm, 3.50pm, 6.05pm, 8.30pm Wishmaster 8.40pm

ODEON LIBERTY 2(01708-729040) BR: Romford Blues Brothers 2000 12.30pm, 3pm, 5.50pm, 8.30pm Dad Savage 1.30pm, 3.45pm, 6.10pm, 8.30pm Dark City 12.45pm, 3.15pm, 6.20pm, 8.35pm Deep Impact 12.15pm, 2.50pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Red Corner 12.05pm, 2.40pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm

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SIDCUP ABC (0541-555131) BR. Sidoup Deep impact 2.15pm, 5.15pm. 8.15pm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm. 3.45pm. 6.15pm, 8.45pm

STAPLES CORNER VIRGIN (0870-9070717) BR: Cricklewood Dark City 2.30pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.30pm Deep impact 3pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm Red Corner 3.15pm, 6.30pm. 9.15pm The Replacement Killers 2pm. lpm, 8.45pm, 9pm **Slicking Doors** 2pm, 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.30pm edding Singer 2.15pm, 4.30pm,

7pm, 9.15pm STRATFORD (NEW) PICTURE HOUSE (555 3366) BR/ Stratford East The General 1pm. 3.40pm. 6.20pm, 9pm Liar 1.30pm, 6.30pm Shall We Dance? 4pm, 9pm The Wadding Singer 2.50pm, 5pm, 7.10pm, 9.20pm

STREATHAM ABC (0870-9020415) 8R: Streatham Hill Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.40pm. 8.40pm Red Corner 2pm, 5.30pm, 8.30pm **Sliding Doors** 2.30pm, 5.35pm,

ODEOH(0181-315 4219) 8R: Streatham Hill/ Brodon/Clapham Common The Big Labowski 1230pm. 5.50pm The Blackout 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Dark City 1.50pm, 4.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm The Replacement Killers 2.20pm, 4.30pm. 6.40pm, 8.50pm **Scream 2** 3pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Sloger 1.10pm, 3.40pm, 6pm, 8.30pm

SUTTON UCI 6 (0990-888990) BR. Sutton/↔ Morden Blues Brothers 2000 2.45pm Deconstructing Harry 6.30pm Deep Impact 4pm, 6.45pm, 9.15pm The General 5.30pm Red Corner 3.15pm, 9pm Scream 2 9.30pm Sliding Doors 4 15pm, 9.45pm Btor Kid 4 45pm on Square 7pm The Wedding Singer 3.45pm, 6.15pm, 8.45pm easter 8 30om

TURNPIKE LANE COROHET 10181-888 2519) & Turnpike Lane, Dad Savage 4pm, 6.20pm, 8.40pm Dark City 3.45pm. 6 10pm, 8.40pm The Wedding Singar 4pm, 6.30pm, 8.50pm

UXBRIDGE ODEON (01895-813139) & Urbridge Deep Impact 1.30pm, 5.20pm, 8.20pm The Wedding Singer 1.15pm, 4pm, 6.25pm, 8.45pm

WALTHAMSTOW ABC (0870-9020424) ← Walthamstow Central Deep Impact 2 30pm, 5.20pm, 8.10pm The Wedding Stager 1.25pm, 3.40pm, 5.55pm, 8.30pm Wild Things 1.20pm, 5.40pm Wishmaster 3.30pm,

WALTON THE SCREEN AT WALTON (01932-252825) BR Wallon on Thames Stiding Doors 3.15pm, 6.15pm, 8.30pm The Wedding Singer 2.25pm, 4.30pm, 6.35pm, 8.50pm

WELL HALL COROHET (0181-850 3351) 8R. Eltham Deep Impact 3 20pm, 5.55pm, 8.25pm The Wedding Singer 4pm, 6.30nm. 8.50nm

WILLESDEN BELLE-VUE (0181-830 0822) + Willesden Green The General 4pm,

WIMBLEDON ODEON (0181-315 4222) 8R/O Wimbledon/ South Wimbledon The Big Lebowski 2.10pm, 5.10pm 3 25pm Dark City 1.25pm, 6.20pm Deep Impaci 2.30pm, 5.30pm, 8.20pm Martha - Meel Frank, Daniel & Laurence 3.30pm, 8.45pm Sliding Goors 1.20pm, 3.40pm, 6 10pm, 8.45pm The Weddiog Singe 1.10pm, 3 45pm, 6.10pm, 8.45pm

WOODFORD ABC (0181-989 3463) ← South Woodlord The Big Lebowski 8.10pm Deep Impact 2.10pm, 5.40pm Sliding Doors 2.40pm, 6.10cm, 8.35pm The Wedding Singer 1.20pm, 3.40pm,

WOOLWICH **CORONET** (0181-854 5043) 8R: Woolwich Arsenal Deep Impact 3.15pm, 5.50pm, 8.20pm Red Corner 3.20pm,

CINEMA REPERTORY

LONDON CINE LUMIERE AT THE INSTITUT FRANCAIS Queensbery Place SW7 (0171-838 2144) Quelque Jours Avec Mal 7.30pm

EVERYMAN Hollybush Vale NW3 (0171-435 1525) Spite Marriege .35pm, 6.20pm + The Camera (U) 3.05pm, 7.50pm + The General (PG) 4.35pm. 9.20pm

ICA The Mall SW1 (0171-930 3647) Nowhere (18) 5pm, 9pm Pain Is... 8.30pm Football Shorts 11pm

NETT South Bank SE1 (0171-633 0274) The Weedlanders (PG) 2.30pm Star Speogled Rythm: Verooice Lake 8.15pm Balkanisator (Valkanisator): Contemporery Greeca 6.30pm Swallows And Amazons Parts 4-6: felevision 7.30pm No Palo, No Galo 8.30pm The Beest With Five Fingers 8.45pm

PEPSI IMAX The Trocadero, W1 (0171-494 4153) Everest (U) 11.15am, 1.20pm, 3.25pm, 5.30pm, 7.35pm, 9.40pm Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Idventure (U) 12.15pm, 2.20pm, 4.25pm, 6.30pm, 8.35pm, 10.40pm

PHOENIX High Road N2 (0181-883 2233) Smille's Feeling For Snow (15) 1.15pm Afterglow (15) 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm The Big Lebouski (1B) 6.15pm

PRINCE CHARLES Leicester Place WC2 (0171-437 8181) Wilde (15) 1.30pm Gattoca (15) 6.30pm Oscar And Lucinda (15) 9pm

RIO Kingsland High Street E8 (0171-254 6677) George Of The Jungle (U) 4.15pm Happy Togethar (15) 6.15pm Western (15) 8.25pm

RIVERSIDE STUDIOS Crisp Road W6 (0181-741 2255) The Blue

Angel (PG) 6.45pm + The Threepenmy Dpera 8.450m

WATERMANS ARTS CENTRE High Street, Brentfold, Middx (0181-568 1176) Les Voleurs (18) 4 45pm Wastilagton Square (PG) 7pm Stiding Doors (15) 9pm

BRIGHTON DUKE OF YORK'S CINEMA (01273-626261) Jonk Mail (Bodbringeren) (15) 2pm, 7pm Live Flesh (18)

BRISTOL WATERSHED (0117-925 3845) The Hanging Garden (15) 6.05pm Washington Squere (PG) 5.45pm Welcoma To Sarajevo (15) 8.10pm lappy Together (15) 8.15pm

CAMBRIDGE ARTS CINEMA (01223-504444) Gattaca (15) 12.45pm, 7.20pm Live Flesh (18) 3pm, 9.30pm Mother And Son (U) 5.10cm

CARDIFF CHAPTER ARTS CENTRE (01222-399666) Live Flesb (18) 7.30pm Shall We Dance? (PG) 8pm CHICHESTER

NEW PARK FILM CENTRE (01243-786650) The Big Lebowski (18) 3.30pm Sliding Doors (15) 6.15pm Shall Wa Dance? (PG) 8.45pm **IPSWICH**

FILM THEATRE (01473-215544) Kundun (12) 2 30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Live Flesh (18) 6pm Dut Of The Past (PG) NORWICH

CINEMA CITY (01603-622047) Nowhere (18) 230pm Good Will **Hunting (15)** 5 45pm

PLYMOUTH ARTS CENTRE (01752-206114) Jackie Browo (15) 8pm

> CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON ABC EAST STREET (01273 327010). The Wedding Sioger (12); Silding Doors (15); The Little Mermaid (U), Deep Impact (12): Six Days, Sev-

en Nights [12]. Mad City (15)

ODEOH (01273-207977), Lolita (18), Six Days, Seven Nights (12); Dark City (15), The Weddiog Singer (12); The Little Mermaid (U): The Butcher Boy (15), Wild Things (18): MouseHunt IPG). The Big Lebowski (181; Deep Impact (12), Mimic (15): City Of Angels (12); Soul Food (15): The Replacement

VIRGIN CINEMA (0541-555145); The Castle (15): The Wedding Singer (12): The Replacement Killers (18). Red Corner (15), Star Kid (PG); Mad City (15): Washington Square (PG). City Df Angels (12). Stiff Upper Lips (15). MouseHunt (PG): Sliding Doors : Six Days, Seven Nights (12): Dark City (15); Wishmaster (18); The Little Mermaid (U); Mimic (15), Deep Impact (12); The Diject Of My Affection [15]; Paws [PG]; The Apostle (12): Scream 2 (18)

CAMBRIDGE WARHER VILLAGE (01223-460442). Four Weddings And A Funeral (15); Sliding Doors (15): The (15); Six Days, Seven Nights (12); Martha - Meet Frank, Daniel & Laurence (15); U-Turn (18); The Big Lebowski (18); Blues Brothers 2009 (PG): City Of Angels (12): Wild Things (18); Scream 2 (18); Deep Impact (12); The Land Girls (12), William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet (12) The Little Mermaid (U); Mimic (15): Red Corner (15); Titanic | 12): The Object Of My Affection (15); Anastasia (U); Casper (PG); MouseHunt (PG); Soul Food (15); Dark City (15);

Tha Wedding Sioger (12) **GLOUCESTER** VIRGIN CINEMA (0541-555174) Deep Impact [12]: Star Kid (PG); MouseHunt (PG); The Replacement Killers (18), Anastasia (U): Red Corner (15); The Wedding Singer (12); Sliding Doors (15); Paws (PG); Six Days, Seveo Nights (12): The Little

Mermaid (U): Dark City (15) NORWICH ABC CINEMA (0541-560567). Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); Mimic (15); Desperate Measures (18); Silding Doors (15); Star Kid (PG); Paradise Road (15); Deep Impact (12); The Castle (15); Spiceworld - The Movie (PG): Wishmaster (18); Mad City (15); Red Cornar [15);

useHont (PG) **ODEON** (01603-661832), Anastasia (U): The Ice Storm [15): Scream 2 (18): Paws (PG); The Object Of My Affection (15); Bean (PG), The Little Mermaid (U): The Wedding Singer (12); City Of Angels (12); Dark City (15); Spiceworld - The Movie (PG), Six Days, Seveo Nights (12): Flubber (U)

UCI 10 PARK TAWE (01792 645005); Stiff Upper Lips (15); Deep Impact (12); Paws (PG); City Of Angels (12): Regeneration (15); Wish-master [18); The Wedding Singer (12); Blues Brothers 2000 (PG); Mimic (15); Thanic (12); The Object Of My Af-fection (15); Anastasia (U); The Land Giris (12); Scream 2 (18); Great Expectations (15); Red Corner (15); Slid-ing Doors (15); Star Kid (PG); The at Killers (18); A Bimple Wish (U); Dark City (15); The Big Lebowski (18); The Little Mermaid (U); Wild Things (18). Flubber (U);

WATFORD WARNER VILLAGE (01923-682222); Mimic (15); Sliding Doors (15); Wishmaster (18), The Borrowers (U); Bcream 2 (18); City Of Angels (12); Red Corner (15); The iding Singer (12): Titanic (12); Deep Impact (12); Anastasia (U), The Little Mermaid (U); Mousellunt (PG); Dark City (15); Mad City (15); The Object Of My Affection (15); Nil By Mouth (18); The Land Girls (12); The Replecement Killers (18), Six Days, Seven Nights (12); Star Kid (PG)

THEATRE WEST END

Ticket availability details are for today: times and prices for the week; running 1imes Include intervals. ● — Seats at al prices D — Seats at some prices O — Returns only Matinees — [1]: Sun, [3]: Tue, [4]: Wed, [5]: Thu, [6]: Fri, [7]: Sat

OART Yasmina Reza's comedy about art and friendship. Wyndkam's Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1736/cc 867 1111) ← Leic Sq. Tue-Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7][1] 5pm, £9.50-£27.50. 90 mins.

● AS YOU LIKE IT Literary comedy from Shakespeara. Tha Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) ← London Bridge, In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 8 Sep. £5-£20, concs available.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Family musical based on the favourite fairy tale. Dominion Tottenham Court Road, W1 (0171-656 1888) Tott Ct Rd. Mon-7.30pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £17.50-£32,50, 150 mins.

BLOOD BROTHERS Willy Russell's long-running Liverpool musical melodrama. **Phoenix** Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-369 1733) & Leic So/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£29.50. 165 mins. BUDDY Musical biog-short

Covent Garden/Charing X. Tue-Thu 8pm. Fii 5.30pm & 8.30pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, mats [1] 4pm, £6.75-£30. 160) CATS Lloyd Webber's musical version of TS Eliot's poems. New London Parker Street, WC2 (0171-405 0072/cc

404 4079) Covent Garden/Holborn. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32 50, 165 mins. O CHICAGO Ruthie Henshall stars. Adalphi Maiden Lane, WC2 (0171-344 0055) → Charing X. Mon-Sat 8pm, [4][7] 2.30pm, £16-£36 (inc booking fee). 130

CLOSER Superb sludy of contemporary sexual relationshins hom Dealer's Choice author Patrick Marber. Lyric Shaflesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5045) → Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £5-£27.50, 140 mins.

• THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (ABRIDGED) Reduced Shakespeare Company's keenly-

paced theatrical history lesson. Criterion

Precadilly Circus, W1 (0171-369 1747) ← Picc Circ. Tue 8pm, £9.50-£20. DELTON JOHN'S GLASSES David Farr's comedy about one man's obsession with Wattord Football Club and their lailure to win the Cup Final in 1984. Queen's Shaflesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5590/cc 344 4444) & Picc Clic.

Mon-Fn 7.45pm, Sat 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £10.50-£27.50.) GAS STATION ANGEL Story of two lovers who are tated to meet, from the creator of House Of America. Not suitable for children. Royal Court Upstairs (at The Ambassadors) West Street, WC2 (0171-565 5000) + Lelc Sq. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [7] 4pm. Tonight 7pm, ends 27 Jun, £5-£10, benches 10p, Mon & matinees - at) seats £5.

GREASE Marissa Ounion stars In the slage version of the film. Cambridge Eartham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080) Covent Garden, Mon-Sal 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £10-£30. 150

AN IDEAL HUSBAND n Peter Hall's acclaimed production of Wilde's comedy. Albery St Martin's Lane, WC2 (0171-369 1730/cc 867 t111) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Sal 7.45pm, [5] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £7.50-£29.50. 165 mins.

 AN INSPECTOR CALLS Slephen Daldry's widely acclaimed production of J8 Priestley's thriller. Garrick Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Fri 7.45pm, Sal 8.15pm, [4] 2.30pm, Sat 5pm, £10.50-£25. 110 mins. • KAT AND THE KINGS

Musical set in 1950s Cape Town. Vaude-ville Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987) 8R/← Charing X. Mon-Thu 8pm, Frl-Sal 5.30pm & 8.30pm, £6.25-£27.50. ● A LETTER OF RESIGNA-

TRON Hugh Whitemore's play about the Profumo atfair and political morality. Savoy Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888/cc 836 0479) Charing X/Embankmenl. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £12.50-£25. 135 mins.

THE MAIDS Robert Lepage's staging of Genet's classic drama. Lyric mersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) Hammersmith. In rep. lonight 7.30pm, ends 20 Jun, £5-£20.

● MAJOR BARBARA Jemma Redgrave and Peter Bowles star in George Bernard Shaw's classic comedy. Thy Denman Street, W1 (0171-369 1734) O Picc Circ. In rep. tonight 7.45pm, continuing, £8.50-£27.50

• THE MERCHANT OF VENICE Shakespeare's cross-cultural cornedy. The Globe New Globe Walk, SE1 (0171-401 9919) ← London Bridge, in rep. today 2pm, £5-£20, concs.available.

 A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM Classic tale of love and confusion set in the fairy kingdom. Open Air Regent's Park, NW1 (0171-486 2431/cc 486 1933) → Baker Street. in rep, tanight 8pm, ends 5 Sep, £8-£20.

LES MISERABLES Musical dramatisation of Victor Hugo's masterniece. Palace Shattesbury Avenue. W1 (0171-434 0909) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat .30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, £7-£32.50.

● THE MISANTHROPE Baine Paige, Michael Pennington, Peter Bowles and Anna Carteret star. Piccadilly Denman Street, W1 |0171-369 1734) → Picc Circ. In rep., tonight 7.45pm, continuing, £8.50-£27.50, cones £12.50, 140 mins.

D MISS SAIGON Musical which resets the Madam Butterfly tragedy to Vielnam. Theatre Royal, Drury Lane Catherine Street, WC2 (0171-494 5060) [4][7] 3pm, £5.75-£32.50, 165 mins.

● THE MOUSETRAP Againa Christie's whodunnit. St Mertio's West Streel, WC2 (0171-836 1443) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Sal 8pm, [3] 2.45pm. [7] 5pm, £9-£23, 135 mins.

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING Declan Donnellan directs Cheek By Jowl In a new production of Shakespeare's classic. Playbouse Northumberland Avenue, WC2 (0171-839) 4401/cc 316 4747) ← Embankment. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [5][7] 2.30pm, ends

25 Jul. £10-£22. O THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Andrew Lloyd Webber's Gothic musicel. Hor Mejesty's Haymarket, SW1 (0171-494 5400/cc 344 4444) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [4][7] 3pm, booking to 19 Dec, \$10-232.50. 150 mins.

 POPCORN Lawrence Boswell directs Ben Elton's satire on cinema violence. Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) ← Picc Circ. Mon-Sal 8pm, [4] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £6.50-£23.50.

THE REAL INSPECTOR HOUND & BLACK COMEDY Double bill of drama from Torn Stoppard and Peler Schaffer. Comedy Panton Streel, SW1 (0171-369 1731) → Picc Circ/Leic Sq. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. [4][7] 3pm, £7.50-£27.50. 165 mins.

PRENT New musical inspired by La Bohème. Shaftesbury Shaftesbury Avenue, WC2 (0171-379 5399) & Holborn/Tott Ct Rd. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £12.50-£32.50. 160 mins.

ROYAL NATIONAL tracing the brief life of Buddy Holly. Strand Aldwych, WC2 (0171-930 8800) ↔ THEATRE Lyttelton: The London Cuckolds Ravenscroft's Restoration comedy stars Caroline Quentin. In rep. loda 2.15pm & 7.30pm, continuing. 195

> Olivier: An Enemy Of The People tan McKellen stars in a new version of losen's explosive critical drama. In rep, tonight 7,15pm, ends 20 Jun. 180 mins. O Cottesioe: Our Lady Of

Stige Out Of Joint's latest production stars Sinéad Cusack. In 1ep. tonight 7.30om, continuing, 150 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000) Waterloo O SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER Hil 1970s musical featuring classic

disco songs by the Bee Gees, as well as three new songs. London Palladium Argyll Street, W1 (0171-494 5020) ← Oxford Circ. Mon-Sal 7.30pm, [4][7] 2,30pm, £10-£32.50. 135 mins.

SHOW BOAT Jerome Kem and Oscar Hammerstein's musical set on the Mississippi, Prince Edward Old Compton Street, W1 (0171-447 5400) - Leic So/Tott Ct Rd, Mon-Sat 7 30pm, [5] [7] 2,30pm, £10-£35, 180 mins.

SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE -THE SONGS OF LEIBER AND STOLLER The rock and roll hitmakers celebrated in a musical revue that Includes Jailhouse Rock'. Prince of Wales Coventry Street, W1 (0171-839 5972) ← Leic Sq. Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5,45pm & 8,30pm, Sat 3pm & 8pm, £15-£32,50, Fri mats £10-£25, 135 mins.

STARLIGHT EXPRESS

Andrew Lloyd Webber's hi-tech roller-skat-

ing musical. Apello Victoria Wilton Road, SW1 (0171-416 6070) 8R/O Victoria. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, [3][7] 3pm, £12.50-£30. 150 mins. SWEET CHARITY Bonnie Langford stars in this popular musical. leaturing the numbers 'Hey 8ig Spender' and 'Rhythm Of Life'. Victoria Palace

Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-834 1317) 8R/ Victoria, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, [4][7] 3pm, £15-£30.) THINGS WE DO FOR Ayckbourn's cornedy, Gieigud Shaftes-bury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065)

3pm, £10.50-£27.50. 140 mins. 3 BY PINTER: A KIND OF ALASKA Bill Nighy and Penelope Wilton star in the revival of this Pinler classic. Donmar Warehouse Eartham Street WC2 (0171-369 1732) ← Covent Gdn. Mon-Sat 7pm, [4][7] 2pm, £10-£25.

◆ Picc Circ. Mon-Sat 7.45pm. [5][7]

• 3 BY PIHTER: THE **COLLECTION & THE LOVER** Pinter stars in a double bill of his own work. Donmar Warehouse Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-369 1732) ← Covent Garden. Mon-Sat 8.15om. [4][7] 3.15om, £10-£25.

 TROILUS AND CRESSIDA espeare's classic tale of love and chivalry set during the Seige of Troy. Dpen Air Regent's Park. NW1 (0171-486 2431/cc 486 1933) ➡ Baker Street In rep. Jonight 8pm, ends 3 Sep. £8-£20.

THE WOMAN IN BLACK Susan Hill's chilling ghost story. Fortune Russell Street, WC2 (0171-836 2238/cc 344 4444) Covent Garden/Holbom. Mon-Sat 8pm, [3] 3pm, [7] 4pm, £8.50-£23.50, 110 mins.

THEATRE BEYOND THE WEST END

ALMEIDA THEATRE The Doctor's Oilemma Tony Britton stars in George Bernard Shaw's cornedy, Mon-Sal 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, ends 27 Jun. £6.50-£19.50, concs available. Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404) Anget.

ARTS THEATRE Disco Pigs Acclaimed contemporary love story from Enda Walsh. From Jun 9, Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri-Sat 6pm & 9pm, ends 25 Jul. £8-£15. Great Newport Street, WC2 (0171-836) 3334/cc 741 9999) ← Leicester Square.

BAC Seeing Red II: On The Couch With Enoch, The (Bogus) People's Poem, The Big Idea, The Mandelsoo Files Four short new political plays. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, Sun 5.30pm, ends 14 Jun. £8, concs £5. Lavender Hill, SW11 (0171-223 2223) 8R: Clapham Junction.

LYRIC STUDIO Take-Away An exploration of the goings-on behind the scenes at a Chinase Take Away. Mon-Sat 8pm, mats Sat 4.30pm, ends 13 Jun. 95-910, cones \$5. King Street, W6

NEW END THEATRE A Dancerous Womae Naw drama starring Fenella Fielding and looking at the tile of Wallis Simpson. Tue-Sun 7.30pm, mats Sat & Sun 3.30pm, ends 5 Jul, phone to prices. New End, Heath Street, NW3 (0171-794 0022) → Hampslead.

SOUTHWARK PLAYHOUSE The Orchestra Anouilh's drama about musicians. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, ends 27 Jun. £7, cones £5. Southwark Bridge Road, SE1 (0171-620 3494) → Borough. 225671) ⊕ @ ● ●

FIRST CALL, LAST CALL

South London's mellow beats trio, Morcheeba, join the big league with a one off show in the grand confines of the Royal Albert Hall on 9 November. It promises to be a lively homecoming show for the band after a huge year which has seen them tour the world and achieve both commercial success and critical acclaim for their magnificent. Big Colm album. Book now and avoid disappointment. Royal Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212) £10 50-£13 50. 9 NOO

Last Call When Hanif Kureishi (right) published his hiss-and-tell novel Intimacy, full of thinly veiled personal bitcheries about his own marital break-up, he unleashed a very public storm of indignant protests from his entire family. Was the novelist's main problem too much fact or too much fantasy? Blake Morrison attempts to draw Kureishi out from behind the parapet in tonight's discussion about the dangers of confessional writing. Definitively the last piece of dirty underwear to come out of this particular family laundry basket

Purcell Room, London SE1 (0171-960 4242) tonight, 7.30pm, £6/£3.50 concs



COUNTRYWIDE

BRIGHTON THEATRE ROYAL FOROY Money! Cornedy about the events which ensue when a man accidentally picks up a brielcase containing £75,000 Mon-Sat 7.45pm, ends 13 Jun. £7.50-£15.50. concs available. Bond Street (01273-

CARDIFF NEW THEATRE Travels With My Aunt Giles Havergal adapts Graham Greene's story. Tue-Sat 7.30pm, ends 13 Jun. £7-£15, concs available. Park Place (01 222-876889)

CHELTENHAM EVERYMAN THEATRE Summe In The City New musical teaturing the songs of the swinging Staties. Mcn-Sat 7.45pm, ends 13 Jun. £5-£14.50. Regen

Street (01242-572573) CHICHESTER CHICHESTER FESTIVAL THEATRE Saturday, Sunday... And Monday Domestic comedy about family tension in the run up to a wedding. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sal 2.30pm, ends 27 Jun. £6.50-£25. Oak-

lands Park (01243-781312) EASTBOURNE CONGRESS THEATRE From A Jack To A King Bob Carlton's rock and roll Macbeth, Mon-Thur 8pm, Fil & Sat 5pm & 8.30pm, ends 13 Jun. £10-£19.50. Compton Street (01323-412000)

NEWBURY WATERMUL THEATRE Absurd Person Siogular Alan Ayckbourn's comedy. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu & Sat, 2.30pm, ends 11 Jul. £6-£15. Bagnoi (01635-46044)

NORTHAMPTON ROYAL THEATRE Skylight David Hare's drama about a meeting between ex lovers. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Thu 2.30pm, ends 20 Jun. £4-£14, concs available. Guildhall Road (01604-632 533)

NORWICH THEATRE ROYAL Kind Hearts ronets Robert Powell and Colin Baker star. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. £3-£15. Theatre Street (01603-630000) OXFORD PLAYHOUSE THEATRE The

Herbal Bed Peter Whelan's thriller inspired by a real life tragedy involving Shakespeare's daughter. Mon-Sat 7.30pm. ends 13 Jun. £11.50-£22. Beaumont Street (01865-798600) PLYMOUTH THEATRE ROYAL The Phantom

Of The Opera Andrew Lloyd Webber's musicat, Mon-Sal 7,30pm, mats Thu & Sat 2.30pm, ends 13 Jun £20.50-£32.50, concs available. Royal Parade South (01752-267222) READING

THE HEXAGON Guards! Guards! Terry Pratchett's surreal detective story is brought to the stage. Mon-Sat 8pm, ends 13 Jun. £10.50-£14.50. Queens Walk (0118-960 8060) THE MILL AT SONNING Waiting Game Thritler sel during a lictiona

conflict in Spain. Tue-Sat 8.15pm, mats

Sat 2.15pm, ends 27 Jun. £20.95-

£31.95, including meal. Sonning Eye (0118-969 8000) SOUTHAMPTON NUFFIELD THEATRE Abigail's Party Mike Leigh's biting social come-

Mon-Thu 7.30pm, Fri-Sal 8pm, ends 13 Jun. £5.95-£11.95. concs available University Road (01703-671771) STRATFORD-UPON-

THE OTHER PLACE Shadows Riders To Tha Sea & The Shadow of The Gien & Purgatory Drama by WB Yeats and JM Synge. In rep, tonight 7.30pm ends 4 Sep. £12-£19. Southern Lane (01789-295623)

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Tempest Shake-speare's island romance. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 3 Sep. £5-£37. Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE Talk Of The City Stephen Poliakoff's drama explores

media control in the early days of TV. In rep, tonight 7.30pm, ends 3 Sep. £5-£31. Waterside (01789-295623) SWANSEA GRAND THEATRE Cider With Rosie Stage adaptation of Laurie Lee's

autobiographical novel about an idyllic

country childhood. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, ends

13 Jun. £4.50-£9.50, concs available.

Singleton Street (01792-475715) WATFORD PALACE THEATRE Schippel, The Plumber Sharp satire about a singing plumber who joins e male singing group. Mon-Thu 7.45pm, Fri-Sat 8pm, ends 27 Jun. £4-£15, concs £4-£8.50. Clarendon Road (01923-

EXHIBITIONS

BATH HOLBURNE MUSEUM & CRAFTS STUDY CENTRE The Collector's Eye: From Romney To Renoir English at from the 18th and 19th canturies. Non-Sat 11am-5pm, Sun 2.20pm-5.30pm. ends 5 Jul. £3.50, CAP =3, UB40 50 + 52, child £1.50, family £7 (to museum). Great Pulteney Street (0:225-466669:

BRIGHTON BRIGHTON MUSEUM & ART GALLERY A Surreal Life: Edward James Surrealist work from this major patron of contemporary art's collection. Mor, Tue, Thu-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, acds 26 Jul, free. Church Stree: (01273-2909001

LONDON BARBICAN ART GALLERY The Warhol Look: Glamonr, Style, Fashion Over 500 works explore art, 61m and testion during Warhol's life. Mon. Thu-Sal 10am-6.45pm, Tue 10am-5.45pm Wed 10am-7,45pm, Sun & Bank Hols 12noon-6.45pm, ends 16 Aug. £6(£4 ziter Epm Mon-Fri), concs £4. Silk Street, EC2 (2171-536 4141) - Barbican/Meorgate.

HAYWARD GALLERY Anish Kapoor Sixteen large sculptures by the contemporary British artist. Mon-Syr. 10am-6pm Juntil 8pm Tue & Wed), ends 14 Jun. 25, concs £3.50. Selvedere Road, SE1 (0171-960 4242) BS: Walerloo.

KENWOOD HOUSE Angels And Urchins; The Fancy Picture in 18th Century British Art Popular 18thcentury painting by artists including Gainsborough and Joseph Wright of Derby, Mon-Sun 10am-6pm, ends 9 Aug. £3.50, concs £2.50, under 12s free. Hampstead Lane, NW3 (0181-348 1286) O Golders Green/Archway, Then bus.

NATIONAL GALLERY Masters Of Light: Dutch Painting From Utrecht In The Golden Age Dutch paintings from the 17th century demonstrating unique use of light, includes work by 8 loemaert and er Sruggher. Mon-Sat 10am-6pm (Wed to Spiri). Sun 12noon-6pm, ends 2 Aug. 25. concs £3. Tratalgar Square, WC2 3321) 10171-839 Charing Cross, Leicester Square.

ROYAL ACADEMY OF ARTS The Art Of Holy Russia: Icons From Moscow 1400-1660 Fifty Icons. Ends 14 Jun. £5.50, concs £4.50, NUS £3.80, child £1-£2.50. Royal Acadamy Summer Exhibition 1998 Major annual selling exhibition. Mon-Sun 10am-6pm (to 8.30 Sun), ends 16 Aug. £7, UB40/OAP £5.50, NUS £5, child 12-18 £2,50, child 8-11 £1, incl handbook 8urlington House, Piccadilly, W1 (0171-300 8000/cc 300 5676) ← Green Park.

TATE GALLERY Some New Paintings: Lucian Frend Recent work by the leading artist, including a recent ell-portrait etching. Mon-Sun 10am-5.50pm, ends 26 Jul, free. Millbank, SW1 (0171-887 8000) ← Pimlico.

VICTORIA & ALBERT MUSEUM The Power Of The Poster Graphic art from the last century, ranging hom Toulouse Lautrec to Wonderbra. Mon 12noon-5.45nm, Tue-Sun 10am-5.45pm, ends 26 Jul. £5, concs £3, under 18/ ES40s/disabled/mems/ 4.30pm-5.45pm, free (to museum). Cromwell Road, SW7 (0171-938 8441) South Kensington.

OXFORD ASHMOLEAH MUSEUM Architect Of The Gothic Revival: L N Cottingham 1787-1847 Looking at the lifetime achievements of this 19th century architect, Tue-Sat 10am-4pm, Sun 2pm 4pm, ends 21 Jun, free. Beaumont Street (01865-278000)

EVENTS

BRIGHTON

JAZZ AGE POOLE 1920s and 1930s Poole Pottery exemplifying the Jazz Age. Museum & Art Gallery Church Street (01273-603005) Mon. Tue, Thu. Fri. Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends LONDON

AFRICAN XCHANGE Contemporary dance, music and literature by Alrican artists. Africa Centre King Street WC2 (0171-836 1973) ← Covent Garden. Tonight 7.30pm, phone for prices. THE CARTIER-BRESSON LEICA CAMERA AUCTION Featuring a unique signed camera. Christie's Old Brompton Road SW7 (0171-581 7611) South Kensington Viewing today 2pm-5pm, 10 Jun. 9am-5pm, 11 Jun. 9am-12noon, auction

POOLE STARS AT SPEED Celebrating the history of the Poole Pitales speed-way learn. Poole Town Cellars High

Street (01202-683138) Mon-Sat 10am-

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11 Jun. 2pm, free.

MUSIC POP.

LONDON

HEFNER Retro to-li jazz trio. Acoustic Cafe Manette Street W1 (0171-439 0831) ➡ Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 8.30pm, phone for prices.

JONNY LANG Teenage blues precing whose debut album has sold over a million in the US. Dingwall's Camden Lock, Chalk Farm Road NW1 (0171-267 1577) Camden Town. Tonight 8pm, £8. BARRY ADAMSON Cinematic jazz-hop instrumentals specialist adds a lew vecals. The Emporium Kingly Street W1 (0171-734 3190) → Oxford Circus. Tonight 8pm, £10.

BOY GEORGE, DANNII MINOGUE DJ George gets back to his soul-crooning roots, joined by the media-babe disco diva. Royal Albert Hall Kensington Gore SW7 (0171-589 8212) High Street Kensington. Tonight 8pm. £15, £19.50 & £22.50.

MONTROSE AVENUE, THE HYBIRDS, GRAND DRIVE London outfit influenced by Neil Young, The Beach Boys and The Byrds. University of London Union Malet Sheet WC1 (0171-580 9551) ← Goodge Street, Toxight 7.30pm, £5. TOM ROBENSON Post-punk protest

singer-songwriler. The Weavers

Newington Green Road N1 (0171-226 6911) Highbury & Islington. Tonight 8pm, £10, adv £9. VAN HALEN, DEADLINE A new vocalist, ex-Extreme Gary Cherone, and a new album, Van Halen III. Wes Arena Empire Way, Wembley (0181-902

0902/900 1234) Wembley Park. Tonight 6.30pm, £17.50. **PORTSMOUTH** GARBAGE, THE CRYSTAL METHOD Butch, Vig and Shirley Manson's chart-busling doomy indie band. The Guildhall Guildhall Square

(01705-824355) Tonight 8pm, £12.50. TORQUAY DAVID ESSEX Gypsy chic 1970s singer with a legion of loyal tans. Princess Theatre Torbay Road (01803-290290) Ionight 7.30pm, £13-£17.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS DANCING IN THE STREETS Celebration of the golden age of Motown. **Assembly Hall Theatre Crescent Road** (01892-530613) Tonight 7.30pm, £15-**MUSIC**

JAZZ, WORLD, FOLK CAMBRIDGE NOIS Lissome Brazilian jazz with

vocalist Monica Vasconceles. Boat Race Easl Road (01223-508533) Tonight 7.30pm, £8, £6 mems & concs.

EBBW VALE HOUSE BAND British virtuoso acoustic quartet. Beaufort Theatre Beaufort Hill (01495-302112) Tonight 7,30pm, £8.50, concs £7.

LONDON

ANDREA VICARI TRIO Postbon jazz and Latin pianist, support from the Oill Katz Quartet. 606 Club Lots Road SW10 (0171-352 5953) ← Fulham 8roadway/Earls Court. Tonight 9.30pm & 12midnight, £4.95. RAY CHARLES R&B, blues and

es. Barbican Centre Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 4141) ← Barbicar/Moorgate. Tonight 7.30pm, £17.50-£40. JAZZ SHEILAS Australian vocalists Trudy Kerr and Anita Wardell in Irlendly cabaret. Jazz Bistro Farringdon Street EC1 (0171-236 8112) BR/ Farringdon.

country legend with strings and the

Tonight 7pm, Iree los diners. IAN SHAW/CLAIRE MARTIN The dynamic duo with a new jazz-pops revue, Something Real. Pizza Express Jazz Club Dean Street W1 (0171-439 8722) Tottenham Court Road. Tonighi 9pm, £12.50, Fri £15

MORNINGTON LOCKETT Postbop tenor giant in duo. Pizza Express Kentish Town Kentish Town Road NW1 (0171-267 0101) Kentish Town. Tonight 8pm, hee. RONNIE KOLE Rabble-rousing blues and jazz pianist-entertainei. Pizza on the Park Knightsbridge SW1 (0171-

235 5273) Hyde Park Corner. Tonight 9.15pm & 11.15pm, £18, adv £16. **ERAKERIE** Contemporary salsa-fusion outfit. Rosole Boatt's Frith Street W1 (0171-439 0747) Leicester Squ Tonnight 9.30pm, £15. mems £4, NUS £8 (Mon-Thu): £15, mems £8 (Fri-Sal). BERT JANSCH Folk and blues gullar maesiro. The Spitz Commercial Street E1 (0171-392 9032) Liverpool

Street. Tonight 8pm, £9, concs £7. OXFORD

RAY GELATO GIANTS ZOOIsuited Vegas swingers. O.X. One New Road (01865-250099) Tonight 9pm. 5pm, Sun 12pm-5pm, ends 5 Jul, £1.50. £3.50, concs £3.

DANCE

LONDON CAMDEN PEOPLE'S THEATRE Arena Theatre Company: Africa My Africa Percussion-based African music, dance and poetry. Tonight 8pm. £7, concs £5. Hampstead Roed, NW1 (0171-916 5878) Warren Street/Euston Square.

PLACE THEATRE 4D Performance Group Works by Jonathan Lunn, Dianne Etshout and Frank Handeler formed by London Contemporary Dance School's postgraduate company from LCDS. Tonight 8pm, £6, concs £4. Dukes Road, WC1 (0171-387 0031) Euston.

QUEEN ELIZABETH HALL La Tolea: Arte Flamenco Andalucian gypsy dancer backed by her singers, quitarists and percussionists. Tonight 7.45pm. £10-£15, concs £8-£13. South Bank Centre, SE1 (0171-960 4242) Waterloo.

NORTHAMPTON THE DERNGATE Rambert Dance Company: Cruel Garden Evocation of the life and work of Federico Garcia Lorca through dance, text and song. Tonight 7.30pm, £11,50-£18.50, concs available Guildhall Road (01604-624811)

CLASSICAL

LONDON

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL Dame Gillian Wei The organist in a recital of the music of Messiaen, Tonight 7.30pm, £9, concs £6. Victoria Street, SW1 (0171-344 44-14)

WIGMORE HALL Nash Ensemble

Clarinet Quinters by Michael Berkeley and

Mdžart. Tonight 7.30pm. £6-£14.

Withmore Street W1. (0171-935 2141)

4.5

COMEDY

O Bond Street/Oxford Circus.

IPSWICH MICHAEL BARRYMORE -LAID BACK ON TOUR AT THE REGENT Popular all-round TV entertainer with an evening of music. laughter and empathising entertainment. Tonight 8pm, £16.50-£18.50. St Helens

Street (01473-281480) LONDON HEW EDNA - THE SPECTA-CLE AT THEATRE ROYAL HAYMARKET Antipodean come by from this glamour queen. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Sat 3pm, £15-£32. Hay-

market, SW1 (0171-930 8800) Piccadilly THE CUTTING EDGE AT THE COMEDY STORE LEE Hurst Sean Men Boothby Graffoe Paul Thome, Steve Gribbin and Martin Covote Tonight 8om, £11, concs £7, Oxendon Street SW1 (01426-914433/cc 0171-344 4444)

 Piccaditly Circus. SOUTHAMPTON LEE EVAHS: DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME TOUR AT MAYFLOWER THEATRE VISUAL hi-jinks, plus special guest Richard Morton. . Tonight 7.30pm, £13 & £14. Commercial

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CLUBS

Road (01703-711811)

LONDON FAR ROCKAWAY AT **JERUSALEM** Barely Breakin' Even's Berr and Pete and

otlenham Court Road, £3, free before **ILLUMINAT! AT BLUE NOTE** The Third Eye Crew's night of live performance, film and an illumination mix of dub, hip-hop, ska and kink. Tonight 9pm-3am, Hoxdon Square, N1 (0171-729 8440) ◆ Old Street, £6.

guest Huw (Mr Bongo) spin soulful dis-co scorchers. Tonight 10pm-2am, Rath-bone Place, W1 (0171-225 1120) ◆

LITERATURE

LONDON

mems/concs £3.

ADRIAN MITCHELL Poet reads from his new collection, Heart on the Left. Bookmarks, The Socialist Bookshop Bloomsbury Street WC1 (0171-637 1848) Tottenham Court Road. Tonight 6.30pm, liee by ticket, phone to reserve. **ECHOES OF ISRAEL** Readings ol contemporary israeli drama produced National Theatre: Cottesioe South Bank SE1 (0171-452 3000) 8R/ Waterloo. Today 1pm & 3pm, £3.50, concs £2.50, ocket for two readings £5. concs £4. HANIF KUREISHI WITH BLAKE MORRISOH Readings

from Kurelshi's latest novel, Intimacy, and discussion with writer Monison. Purcell Room South Bank SE1 (0171-960 4242) BR/& Waterloo. Tonight 7.30pm, £6, CONCE £3.50.

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(976-998MHz FM)

RADIO 2

PARIO 3

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(88-902MHz FM)

90.2-92.4MHz FM)

9.00 Masterworks.

11.00 Sound Stories.

19.30 Artist of the Week.

12.00 Composer of the Week:

1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime

Concert. See Pick of the Day

7.30 Performance on 3. The sec-

song within the Sounding the Cen-

tury series. David Wilson-Johnson

(baritone) and David Owen Norris

songs by Charles Ives, Samuel Bar-

ber and Elliott Carter, including Bar-

Joyce and Carter's Three Poems

of Robert Frost'. See Pick of the Day

9.00 Postscript. Five programmes

this week examining the history.

culture and inhabitants of the dy-

played a major part in inventing

98?". One hundred years ago,

made Brooklynites strive to

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 1

6.00 Sky Riders (1976) (48335), 7.30 Magic Sticks (1967) (81286), 9.00 It's a

Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World (1963) (705183), 11.20 Jurnanij (1965) (32826), 1.30 Sicy Filders (1976) (15480), 3.00 A Promisë to Carolyts (1996) (22002), 5.00 Jurnanij (1995) (37064), 7.00 To Face Her Past (1996) (37025), 9.00 Up Close and

Personal (1999) (14625), 11.00 Way to Dusty Death (1995) (35145354), 1.05 Seeds of Doubt (1996) (113497), 2.40 All

Men Are Mortal (1995) (528125). 4.16 . .

6.20 The Black Rose (1950) (75323441).

\$2229880), 10,00 Bachelor Flat (1962) \$2002), 12,00 The Last American Hero

(1973) (29118). 2.00 My Cousin Flachel

(1952) (348052). 3.55 The Black Rose

(1950) (609354). 5:56 The Last American

Hero (1973) (75787731). 7.30 Behind the

(564267). **10.16** Swimming with Sharks (1994) (593286). **11.50** Johnny Mnemonic (1995) (530002). **1.30** Slaves of New York

Scanes (6118), 8.00 Hackers (1995) (53381267), 9.45 The Movie Show

(1989) (38208942). 3.35 - 8.00

Knightriders (1981) (17220497).

4.00 Written on the Wind (1956)

(1941), 6.00 The Glass Key" (1942) (1982489), 8.00 The Abyss (1989) See Pick of the Day (52183354), 10.20 Sud-

den Impact (1983) (8501151). 12.20 Young

Guns (1988) (5761768), 2.10 Underground (1995) (12492836), 4.55 Close.

9.00 A-Team (3771422), 9.00 Real Sto-

ries of the Highway Patrol (8758002). 9.30 Cops (797460). 10.00 Italian Stripping

Diaries (7688286). 11.00 Film: Redemp-

1.00 Beverly Hills Bordello (4591316). 1.30 Italian Stripping Housewives (3663565). 2.00 Real Stories of the High-

way Patrol (771836), 2.30 Cops (7723671), 3.00 Film: Cat's Eye (1985)

(7961942) 5.00 - 6.00 The A-Team

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Fishing World (7837625). 4.30 Zoo

Story (7833809). 5.00 First Fights

(2533287), **5.30** Terra X (7857489), **6.00** Animal Doctor (7847002), **6.30** Alaskan

tion: Vampyros Lesbos (1970) (3789557)

ives (7679538). 10.30 Red Shoe

SKY MOVIES GOLD

BRAVO

80). 10.00 Bachelor Flat 1962

SKY MOVIES SCREEN 2

8.20 My Cousin Rachel* (1952).

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America, 2: The Great Mistake of

Brooklyn lost its municipal status

and became part of New York City.

legendary Brooklyn pride that has

Tim Mariow examines what was gained and lost and considers the

namic New York borough that was

once a city in its own right and has

(piano) perform a programme of

bers. Three Settings of James

ond of four recitals of American

2.05 The BBC Orchestras.

4.45 Music Machine. (R)

6.00 On Air.

4.00 Voices

5.00 In Tune.

6.30 Kevin Greening and Zoe 8all 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Jo

Whiley. 2.00 Mark Radcliffe. 4.00 Dave Pearce. 6.30 Steve Lamacq

the Evening Session, 8.30 Digital Update, 8.40 John Peel

10:38 Jayne Middlemiss. 1.00

Cave Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Chris

6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Sarah

Keenedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00

Debbie Thrower. 2.00 Ed Stewart.

6.05 John Dunn. 7.00 Alan Free-

Nigel Ogdert 9.00 The Club That

Scott Built. 10.00 East Side Sto-

ry 10.30 Richard Allinson 12.05

teve Madden 3.00 - 6.00 Jeff

man: Their Greatest Bits. 8.00

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PICK OF THE DAY

The second of two short stories against the clock, Earlier, in The by Dennis Potter (right) this Lauchtime Concert (1pm R3), a week has a rather bitter autobiographical flavour Last Pearls (3.45pm R4), written in the week before Potter died and read by Martin Jarvis, follows a writer struggling to put the finishing touches to his last work before cancer or painkillers put him out of action - just as Potter had to

series of performances of American chamber music from Bristol. begins with the violinist Chantal Juillet and the planist David Owen Norris playing music by Copland and Corigliano. Owen Norris is back again later, accompanying the baritone David Wilson-Johnson in Performance on 3 finish Cold Lazarus and Karaoke (7.30pm R3). ROBERT HANKS



maintain their own sense of cultural identity. Stopping-off points range from the elegant Brooklyn Heights which produced Walt Whitman - to the legendary Gleason's gym. 9.25 The BBC Orchestras. Conductor Tan Dun, Rolf Hind (piano). Tan Dun: Concerto for pizzicato piano. Phan: Flash (first broadcast). Nimi: Chain of Life (first broadcast). Chen: Away from Xuan (first broadcast).

10.45 Night Waves, Richard Coles traces the career of Ray Charles, who was at London's Barbican Centre tonight, from his emergence in the 50s. He also be discusses new work from some of America's most distinguished poets, including John Ashbery and Mark Doty. Meanwhile, Bill Buford of the New Yorker has his palm read as he explores an American boom in fortune-telling. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Puccini. (R) 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

RADIO 4 (924-946MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 The Choics. 9.30 Going, Going, Gone. 9.45 Serial: Round Ireland with a Fridge. (R) 10.00 NEWS; Woman's Hour. 11.00 NEWS; After the Fighting Is Over. 11.30 Dinner Lades. (R) 12.00 NEWS; You and Yours.

12.57 Weather.

1.00 The World at One.

1.30 Full Orchestra. 2.00 NEWS: The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Conquest Merches On. (R) 3.00 NEWS; The Exchange (0171) 580 4444. 3.30 Transplantations. 3.45 Last Pearls. See Pick of the Day 4.00 NEWS; The Learning Curve. 4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 The Cheese Shop Presents... 7.00 NEWS; The Archers. 735 Front Row. Mark Lawson chairs the rightly arts programme. 7.45 Postcards: Real Dennis Truelove. By Dave Sheasby. (2/5). 8.00 NEWS; File on 4. Every day in Britain, around £10 million is spent researching new drugs, with thousands of patients participating in clinical trials. Mark Whitaker analyses how such trials are conducted and reported, and

news for visually impaired people. 9.00 NEWS; Case Notes, Peanuts, rubber, monosodium glutamate -what's your poison? Graham Easton explores allergies. 9.30 The Choice, Michael Buerk talks to people who have faced a single, life-changing choice. He hears about the dilemma, the implications of the various options, and about iving with the consequences.

asks if they produce better drugs

for pharmaceutical companies.

8.40 in Touch. Peter White with

10.45 Book at Bedtime: Master Georgie. Samantha Morton reads Beryl Balnbridge's latest novel, serialised in ten parts. Organised as an account of the taking of six photographs, the book explores the feelings and lives of three people who are each dependent on the scion of a well-to-do Victorian family. '1846 - Girl in the Presence of Death (part 2)' (2/10). 11.00 On the Town with the League of Gentlemen. Perrier Award winners Mark Gatiss, Reace

Shearsmith, Steve Pemberton and Jeremy Dyson star in a blackly comic sketch show in six parts, 4: Bonfira Nights'. A bridgeroom disappears from a rowdy stag night and the local kids have got a new guy for the town bonfire. (R) 11.30 Talking Pictures. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Psycho.

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. RADIO 4 LW

(196kHz.) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Pxorecast. 11.30 - 12.00 Today in Parliament.

RADIO 5 LIVE (693, 909kHz MW) 6.00 The Breakfast Programme. 9.00 Nicky Campbell

12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Nationwide. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Any Sporting Questions. John Invertiale hosts the week's sporting debate, live from Highbury, where a panel of celebrities, including Lawrie McMenemy and John Embury, take questions from the studio

audience. 9.00 Extra Time. 10.00 Late Night Live. The day's big stories with Nick Robinson. Including 10:30 a full sports round-up. 11.00 News and finance. And between 1130 and 100 a sharp and spirited late-night topical discussion. 100 Up All Night.

5.00 · 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM

(1000-1019MHz FM) 6.00 Nick Bailey. 8.00 Henry Kelly. 12.00 Requests. 2.00 Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick. 6.30 Newsnight. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Evening Concert. 11.00 Alan Mann. 2.00 Concerto. 3.00 - 6.00 Mark Griffiths.

VERGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 7.00 Chris Evans. 10.00 Russ Williams. 1.00 Nick Abbot. 4.00 Paul Coyte / FM only Ray Cokes from 6.45. 7.30 Ray Cokes. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00. Calmin Jones. 5.00 - 7.00 Jeremy Clark.

WORLD SERVICE (198kHz LW) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 The Farming World. 1.45 Britain Today. 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 Discovery. 3.00 Newsday. 3.30 Meridian (Live). 4.00 World News, 4.05 World Business Report. 4:15 Sports Roundup. 4.30 The World Today (0430-07001/Insight (SW 5875kHz only). 4.45 Off the Shelf: The Tailor of Panama. 5.30 Outlook (SW 7235kHz only). 5.55 - 6.30 Take Five (SW 7235kHz only).

TALK RADIO 6.00 Kirsty Young and Jeremy Nicholas, 9.00 Scott Chisholm. 12.00 Lorraine Kelly. 2.00 Tommy Boyd. 4.00 Peter Deeley. 7.00 Anna Raebum, 9.00 James Whale. 1.00 - 6.00 lan Collins and the Creatures of the Night

(2382267). 9.00 Hotel (8042083). 9.40

This Life (3540712), 10.35 The Firm (86642248), 12.00 Sight and Sound in

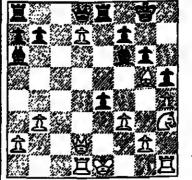
Concert (9886768), 12.45 The Chief

(2452316), 1.40 The Equalizer (9911958).

6.00 Thry Living (994741), 9.00 Rolands

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS WILLIAM HARTSTON



Alexei Shirov will challenge Garry Kasparov for the championship of the newly formed World Chess Council this October By winning his ninth game against Vladimir Kramnik, he increased his lead to 51/2-31/2 to win the match.

After eight generally disappointing games had resulted in seven draws and one win for Shirov, the players finally showed in game nine the imaginative play we had been waiting for It was Kramnik's last game with the white pieces, and therefore his best real chance to equalise the scores. He played more aggressively than in 23 Qe3 Bxg5 earlier games, but Shirov stunned 24 Qxb6 Bxb4+

him with a brilliant rook sacrifice. With 27...Qb6!! (see diagram) he trapped Kramnik's king in the centre. and White had to return more material than he could afford.

White: Vladimir Kramnik

Black: Alexei Shirov 1 d4 Nf6 25 Kd2 axb6 26 fxe4 Rxe4 2 c4 g6 3 t3 d5 27 Kc2 Rg4 28 Rd2 Be7 4 cxd5 Nxd5 5 e4 Nb6 29 Rg1 Kg7 30 Nf2 Rf4 6 Nc3 Bg7 7 Be3 0-0 31 Nd3 Re4 8 Qd2 e5 32 Rgd1 Bb5 9 45 66 33 a4 Bc6 40 h4 h5 34 Rel Rxel 11 Be2 cxd5 35 Nxel Bb4 12 exd5 N8d7 36 Re2 Bxe1

13 d6 Nf6 37 Rxel Bxg2 14 Bg5 Re8 38 Kd2 h4 15 Rd1 Be6 39 Ke3 Bd5 16 Nh3 Nc4 40 b4 h3 17 Bxc4 Bxc4 41 Re2 f5 42 Rd2 Be4 18 h3 Ra6 19 Nd5 e4 43 Kf4 Bg2 20 Nxf6+ Bxf6 44 Rd7+ Kf6 45 Rh7 g5+ 21 d7 Qb6 22 dxe8Q+ Rxe8 46 Ke3 64+ 47 Kg4 Ke5

48 b5 0-1

CREATIVITY

We asked for ethical things to do with landmines, and Alex Harley has come up with a couple of splendid suggestions. "Hang them from club ceilings at a reasonable height," she says, "to prevent pogo dancing." For more sedate tastes on the dance floor, she recommends lowering them to waltzing level to fit ballroom dancing moves. "One strike and you're out."

John and Fiona Earle have the most poetically ethical use for landmines: "If you scan the words 'ethical landmine', you have a dactyl and a spondee, which are the last two feet of an iambic hexameter." They also point out that an ethical landmine is one that goes "Bang, you're dead" when you step on it.

Maguy Higgs points out that "landmines" is a non-anagram of "dismantle", which is the best thing to do with them. She suggests using a small one to get the lid off a tin of sardines or reduce last week's Polos to pools. More practically she recommends dropping them in the ocean, where they would detonate at the bottom, creating holes that would swallow up a lot of seawater, thus reducing global sea-levels and giving us back more land.

John and Renèe Dolan think they could be used for hlowing holes in Polo mints, or building basements and underground car parks. Nigel Pievin sees them as decongestants for whales' blowholes. He also suggests sending them to Holland to encourage people to tiptoe through the tulips.

Sian Cole says: "I am a hot babe and I go like a bomb," which ties in nicely with Duncan Bull's suggestion to explode landmines near, but not too near Ms Cole, to ensure that the earth moves for her. Mike Gifford thinks they might provide an London E14 5DL.

appropriate background for Sian Cole to test her Big Bang theory. Bruce Birchall has a long list of worthy uses: "Recycle the metal as collecting tins for charities for the victims of landmines"; or "surround nuclear buttons with them to dissuade anyone from pressing one"; or, perhaps most appropriate of all, "put them round the islands in the lake in Viscount Althorpe's estate where his sister is buried so her grave is not disturbed". Nicholas E Gough wants to use them simply to blow up other land-

mines. Landmines are the best laxatives known," Norman Foster assures us. He recommends them particularly to arms dealers and dictators. Noel Mitchell wants to mine more land from landmines to be used for growing food for the hungry. "The holes left from the mines could then be filled with personal injury devices, solving two problems in one go," he says.

"Put in a spy's duvet," Peter Thomas suggests, "so when he wakes he will find his cover is blown". Alternatively, he suggests sending them to your Bang Manager or giving them a home of their own on a blasted heath.

Chambers Dictionary awards to Alex Harley, Nigel Plevin and John and Fiona Earle (mainly because we have just noticed that "John and Fiona" also makes a dactyl and a spondee, as, now that we come to think about it, does "dactyl and spondee".

Next week, we shall be telling you 101 things to to do with e used Spice Girl Meanwhile, we're looking for things to do with e dactyl and a spondee. Ideas will be welcome at: Creativity, The Independent, 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf,

SATELLITE AND CABLE

10.00 The World Tonight.

PICK OF THE DAY

decade earlier, he had come up with the visually stuming sci-fi thriller, The Abyss (8pm Sky Movies Gold, right). The always dependable Ed Harris plays the boss of an underwater oil-rig

who is sent to recover a downed

Wilds (26027/2), 7:30 Disaster (7834538). 8:00 Discover Magazine See Pick of the Day (3784996). 8:00 Raging Planet (3797460). 10:00 Robots' Revenge

(3707847). **11.00** Wheel Nuts (8733793)

11.30 Top Marques II (8590098), 12.00 First Fights (9490381), 12.30 Disaster

(8561316). 1.00 Robots' Revenge...

7.00 Tattooed Teenage Alien Fighters

World (6090977). 7.45 Simpsons (69489). 8.15 Opreh Winfrey (1486189). 9.00 Hotel (12489). 40.00 Another World (30712). 11.00 Days of Our Lives (27248). 12.00 Married With Children (54731). 12.30

M*A*S*H (80644), 1.00 Geraldo (85199).

2.00 Sally Jessy Raphael (17373). 9.00

ation (8083). 9.00 The Nenry (3644).

Jenny Jones (88712). 4.00 Oprah Wintrey (98737). 5.00 Star Trek: The Next Gener-

mon (9003), \$400 ins nearly (9049).

8.30 Married with Chitchen (4996), 7.00 Simpsons (9712). 7.30 The Simpsons (980), 8.00 Speed (9460), 8.30 Coppers (9267), 8.00 Police Siopl 7 (40846), 10.00 Friends (55460), 10.30 Friends (9186), 11.00 Littlejohn (51441), 12.00

JFK: Reckless Youth (13958). 1.00 - 7.00

7.00 Sports Centre (79625). 7.30 High 5 (81460). 9.00 Survival of the Fittest (86441). 8.30 Sports Centre (85712). 9.00 Racing

Long Play (4410720).

SKY SPORTS 1

from Beverty HMs (22793). 7.30 Ge

(3002923), 2.00 Close.

Director James Cameron bit the submarine, only to discover that . box-office jackpot with his it's not the Russians he is up last offering. Titonic, starring against but a brand of aquatic Leonardo DiCaprio and Kate aliens Meanwhile, in Discover Winslet But that was not the Magazine (8pm Discovery), first time he had embarked on a fact catches up with science watery mega-bucks enic - for a fiction as "Cyber Cops" puts under the microscope the new ways in which police are using technology. They are trying to stay ahead of the criminals by employing devices which help them to see at night and new, hitech robots. James Rampton

Mrs (76064), 9.30 Aerobics (11625)

12.30 Sports Centre (79923), 1.00 Boxing

(15403), 3.00 Flugby League (40942), 4.00 Golf - Whiteldrk (76955), 5.00 Sports Cen-

(B219064), 9.30 Bowle (6160267), 11.30

Rugby Union (3498052), 12.30 NHL los Hockey (2655538), 2.30 Show)umping (1570248), 3.30 Bowls (6998538), 5.30

Featrax (8474248): 6.00 Sports Unlimited (4268480), 7.00 Golf - Mastercard Tour

(8765731). 8.00 LPGA Golf (8752267).

10.00 Rugby Leegue (6754002). 11.00 Mejor League Basebal (3413373). 1.00

NHL ice Hockey (8242836), 3.30 Sports Centre (4468652), 4.00 Close.

11.00 Cricket - Benson and Hedges Cup

Sami-Final Laicestershire v Surrey

tre (59720), 5.30 Close.

SKY SPORTS 2

SKY SPORTS 3



(48739199), 10,000 Superbouts Don Curry (48732286), 11,000 Rugby Union Classics (62234809), 11,300 Closs. *90.00 Motorcycling (87544), 11.00 Cricket - Benean and Hedges Cup Semi-final York-shire v Essex (410070), 2.30 Second In-**EUROSPORT** nings (9847). 3.00 Cricket (7485083). 7.00 Sports Contre (6644). 7.30 Fastrax (792). 8.00 Boding (50828). 10.00 Sky Sports Centre (87557). 10.30 Cricket (22285).

7.30 Golf (98354) 8.30 Water Polo (98644) 9.30 Footbal: World Cup Leg-ends (73119) 10.30 Raily (90844) 11.00 Equestrianism (99248) 12.00 Termis (8118), 2.00 Termis (83915), 4.00 Foot-ball (1737), 8.00 Athletics (49847860), 7.45 Football: World Cup 98 (86271806), 10.00 Raily (82825), 10.30-12.30 Foot-

7.00 Aerobios (8223733), 7.20 Sports Centre (8242626), 8.00 Facing (8229441), 8.30 Fish TV (8228712), 8.00 Fish TV UK GOLD 7.00 Never the Twein (2909063), 7.35 Neighbours (8959002), 8.00 Crossroads 8570147), 8.25 EastEnders (\$113625). 9.00 The BE (7863977), 9.30 Howards' Way (7908712), 10.00 Duty Free (2190052), 10.30 The Sullvans (7692485 11.06 Casualty (2143354), 12.00 Cross roads (95376199), 12,25 Neighbours Om-nibus (95379286), 12,55 EastEnders Omnibus (9270199). 1.30 Some Mothers Do 'Ave Em (8673335), 236 Open All Hours (2609977), 2,45 Dengerfield (8958064), 3,45 The Bill (6303064), 4,45 List Bravo (8089877). 5.20 EastEnders (2420809). 5.55 Big Break (1433151). 6.30 The Bit (7830712). 7.90 The Corne-September 1 (8572) 170 Pugby Union (4572) 170).
4.00 Chicket (7776) 73). 7.00 World Wresting (4673) 750 Rugby League Academy (4878) 350 Rugby Linion dy Alternative: Last of the Summer Wine (4227199), 7.40 The Cornedy Alternative: Waiting for God (5292002). 8.20 The Cornedy Alternative: Butterfles

(5599557). 9.50 Ready, Steady, Cook (3149354), 10.30 The Young and the ss (3861460). 11.20 Brooks (74511204). **11.50** Jimmy's (58077170).

2.25 Shopping (62601687).

Rescue 911 (5832538). 1.25 Hart to Hart (8190606). 2.20 Living It Up! (8272809). 3.20 Rolonda (4129877). 4.50 Tempesti (8294199). 5.00 The Heat Is On (7400712). 5.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (9261538). 6.10 Jerry Springer Uncut (6325267). 7.00 Rescue 911 (7497248). 7.30 Myster ies, Magic and Miracles (1276606). 8.00 Adrenain Junides (1874460). 9.00 Filters Portraits of Innocence (15828084). 11.05-12.00 Jerry Springer After Hours

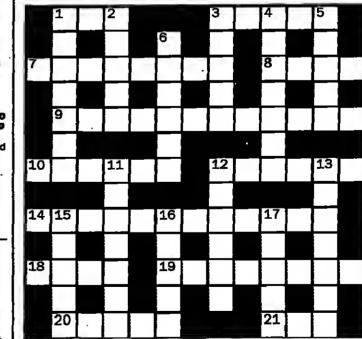
9.00 Film: Objective, Burnet* (1945) (90922489). 11.30 Film: The Password is Courage* (1963) (97100793). 1.30 Film: Jeopardy* (1953) (85964213). 3.00-5.00 Film: The Swordsman of Siena (1962) (46556861).

GRANADA PLUS 5.00 The Box (2681460), 7.00 El Uncut -Pedro Almodovar (7094118). 7.30 Classic Coronation Street (7073625), 8.00 Demosey and Makepeace (209933 9.00 Mission: Impossible (1126408). 10.00 Return of the Saint (7079809). 11.00 Hawel Five-O (7082373). 12.00 Classic Coronation Street (2408354). 12.30 Families (5492170), 1.00 Second Thoughts (7093489). 1.20 On the Buses (5491441). 2.00 Mission: Impossible (7634460). 3.00 Dempsey and Make peace (6239557). 4.00 Hawali Five-O 6218064), 5.00 Return of the Saint (7899083). 6.00 Femilies (9018460). 8.30 Classic Coronation Street (9009712). 7.00 Doctor at Large (7890712), 7.30 Doctor on the Go (9006996). **8.00** Dempsey and Makepeace (1487538). **9.00** Classic Coronation Street (6214248), 9.30 The Comedians (5489906), 10,00 Return of the Saint (1400489), 11.00 As Granada. Man & Motors until 200am (7813915).

2.00 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3632 Tuesday 9 June



REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

N Ireland as BBC1 London except:
6.30 • 7.00 Newsine 6.30 9.30 • 10.00
Spotlight 11.35 Men Behaving Badly 12.05 Firm: We're No Angels 1.45 -

Scotland as BBC1 London except: 6.00 Neire 6.30 - 7.00 Reporting Scotland; Westher 9.30 McCost and McGluby World Cup Special 10.10 Sportscene World Cup 98 11.10 The Clempers 11.40 Film: We're No Angels 1.25 • 6.06 Joins BBC News 24

as BBC1 London except 6.30 Z.00 Water Today 9.30 Going Continental 9.35 Going Continental 10.05 Men Behaving Bedly 10.35 The Campers 11.05 World Cup 98 Preview 12.10 Firm: Weirs No Angels 1.50 - 6.00 lefts Box Alasin 24. Joins BBC News 24

ANGLIA
As Cartism escapt: 12.20 Angla
News and Weather (1952575). 1.00 Hope
and Gloria (16118). 1.30 Home and Away
(27151). 2.00 The Jerry Springer Show
(4901809). 2.20 Anglia News (9345286).
(4901809). 3.20 Anglia News (9345286). Substitute of Street (3385373), 6.00 Home and Away (857731), 6.25 Anglia

News (253165), 7.30 Cravents Collectables (770), 10.30 Angla News and Weether (191441), 12.45 Jenny (84076), 12.46 Tales From the Darkside (56297), 1.45 Commando (96720), 1.45 Fantasy World Cup Live (2045/90), 2.20 Best of British Motor Sport (4092841), 2.45 Firm: Emergency Call* (967955), 4.20 ITV Sport Glesios (96394738), 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (96394738), 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (9679532).

CENTRAL
As Cariton emport: 12.20 Central
News and Weather (1952575). 12.30
News (26880). 1.00 A Country Practice
(19718). 3.20 Central News (9345285).
8.40 Shortland St (3385373). 8.00
Home and Away (85773). 7.30 Heart of
the Country (177). 10.30 Central News
(191441). 4.30 Jobinder (8791381). 8.20
Actan Eur Scheztzill.

Aslan Eye (5062126). HTV WALES
As Carition except: 10.10 This Morning (18317354). 12.15 HTV News
(1852267). 1.00 Shortland Street (1618).
1.30 Home and Away (27151). 2.00 The
Jerry Springer Show (1801803). 3.20 HTV
News (8345286). 5.10 House to House
(3385373). 6.00 Home and Away
(857731). 6.25 Wales Toright (253185). HTV WALES

7.30 Grass Roots (170), 16.30 HTV News (191441), 11.50 World Cup 98 Pre-lude to the Firels (857625), 12.50 Tropical Heat (6687855), 1.35 Commando (96720), 1.45 Fertiasy World Cup Live (2045190), 2.20 Best of British Motor Sport. (409254), 2.45 First Emergency Call* 987855, 4.20 (TV Sport Cassics 98394738; 4.45 (TV Nightscreen

HTV WEST As HTV Welve except: 5.10 Purches People (\$365373), 6.25 HTV West Westiner (47236), 6.36 The West Toright (296), 7.36 Take S (170). MERDIAN

MERDIAN
As Carfton excepts 10.30 This Morning (18317364). 12.13 Merician News and Wester (1832267). 1.00 Shortland Street (1818). 1.30 Horne and Away (27191).
2.00 The Jerry Springer Show (4901805).
3.20 Merician, News and Westher (9345286). 5.27 Three Minutes (567606).
6.00 Merician Toright and Westher (806). 5.30 Under Offer (285). 7.30 The Irsk (170), 10.30 Merician News and Westher (191441). 12.15 Reggee Boys...
On Tour (357367). 1.15 Commando (86720). 1.45 Fentlesy World Cup Live

(2045190), 2.20 Best of British Motor Sport (4092841). 2.45 Film: Emergency Celt* (987855). 4.20 ITV Sport Classics (98394738), 4.45 ITV Nortiscreen (20762923), 5.00 Freescreen (77132).

WESTCOUNTRY WESTCOUNTRY
As Cariton except: 10.50 This Morning
(28517354), 12.25 Westcountry News
(385267), 12.27 Burninations (5007624),
1.00 Emmerdale (16118), 3.20 Westcountry
News (9345296), 4.25 Animal Ark
(281696), 4.45 Batman - the Animated Series (507869), 8.00 Westcountry Live
(48199), 7.30 Stately Homas (170), 10.30
Westcountry News (191441), 12.55 Beywestch Notics (357861), 135 Commando
(66721), 1.45 Fartlesy World Cup Live
(204590), 2.20 Best of British Motor Sport
(409264), 2.45 Firm Emergency California, 10.50
(867855), 4.20 ITV Sport Cassics
(88384738), 4.45 ITV Nightsoreen
(8275132).

YORKSHIRE YORKSHIFTE
As Carlton except: 10:30 This Morning
(85/7554), 12:15 Calendar News and
Weather (75/2257), 1:00 Home and Away
(85/75847), 1:25 The Jerry Springer Show
(34/7977), 2:10 Coronation Street (21/429),
3:20 Calendar News (83/45296), 5:40

News; Weather (705731). 5.55 Calendar (#8422) **6.30** Tonion (269, 7.30 News Story (170), **10.30** Calendar News (191441), **4.25** Jobinder (5382923).

TYNE TEES As Yoriothire excepts 1245 North East News (1952267), 3.20 North East News and Weather (\$345295). **5.55** North East Weather (\$70170). **6.00** North East Tonight (43199). **7.30** North East Tonight Special (170). 10.30 North East News (191441).

As Channel 4 excepts 12.00 Montel Williams (\$4539), 12.30 Sesame Street (25422), 1.00 Slot Melithrin: Bwgen a Deri (25422): 1.00 Slot Melithrin: Bwgen a Deri. Deg (3360); 1.30 Pilm Cattle Empire (7496); 3.00 Screaming Reels (7539); 4.30 Countsiown (593); 5.00 Shump: Uned 5 (5654); 6.00 Newyddion 6 (295977); 6.50 Heno (89399); 7.00 Pobol y Owm (768793); 7.25 Heddlu (970267); 8.00 Grav ar Grwydr (558); 6.30 News (3373); 9.00 Hon (5557); 9.30 The Tourist Trap (62268; 10.00 Brookside (273977); 10.35 Eurobals 98 (53970); 11.25 Gazzala Coming Home (512199); 12.30 Cybill (85687); 1.00 Spin City (79120); 1.30-2.00 Jazz Heroes (53768).

ACROSS

Precious stone (5) Marine mammal (8) Room (5)

10 Without charge for accommodation (4-4) 11 Vagrant (5) 14 Say further (3)

16 Amorous liaison (6) 17 III-treated (6) 18 Provide staff for (3) 20 Letting agreement (5)

24 Listed as separately priced menu items (1,2,5) 25 Condition (5) 26 Furtive (8)

Wading bird (5) Snug (5) Climb (6) Shop (8) Accommodated in tents (8) 12 Not natural (8) 13 High-pitched voice (8) 14 Weapon (3)

27 Usage (5) 1 Musical drama (5)

DOWN

15 Judo proficiency grade (3) 19 Assigns (6) 21 Fight (5) 22 Large wooden container (5) 23 Gernstone (5)

Seletion to yesterday's Concise Crossword: ACROSS: 1 Doubled, 5 Hutch (Double Dutch), 8 Canal, 9 Filling, 10 Aggravate, 12 Ode, 13 Delays, 14 Imbibe, 17 Ski, 18 Rectangle, 20 Ansenic, 21 Input, 23 Ditty, 24 Algebra, DOWN: 1 Dacha, 2 Urn, 3 Lullaby, 4 Defeat, 5 Halve, 6 Tailoring, 7 Hygiene, 11 Gallivant, 13 Discard, 15 Meaning, 16 Acacia, 18 Rummy, 19 Extra, 22 Pub.



THOMAS SUTCLIFFE

, and you could nn Arthur Lowe ne as he railled his And when, uld, Privete d to ask hutist

lified by s brisk shout lell Hitler". If the ending figure instinctively ending figure instinctively state in their right arm, then it safe to shoot them.

In the evidence of Scoret or y's film "Dad's Army", the classic st/com of the e name was smesterpiece search, rather than comic ious editing, anyway—
use although Jimmy
y and David Croft had
ded the rumblings of class
on and the petty rivalries
police and ARP wardens,
illhough they exploited
bsurdity of a force armed
consolites or home-made
ons, they had passed over
ours lethal consequences
controlled enthusiasm.

nents and e sense of the duty. It might have after if they'd been left ay, because, as soon as ot guns, they started to people with them - accidentally, through f training, or deliberately, gh excess of zeal. They farted to die themselves, by weapons which the ar army had rejected as saie that they effectively ed as e contribution to erman war effort. In total, one Guard men died of the war a fairly fairly ofty list given

regional documentary, this time focusing on women who want to box. Jane Couch, "the Fleetwood Assassin", Is the pioneer here, a World Champion who had to sue the British Boxing Board of Control tiefore she was issued with a licence, but who still feces opposition from squeamish promoters. The boxing hierarchy emerges as very beckward in its attitude to "lady" fighters. But is there e sinister underfone heneath its protective reflexes? A thought provoking programme

DOCUMENTARY OF THE DAY

EUROBALLS 98 (10pm C4, right) The World Cup have noticed, starts tomorrow, and while BBC1 an

you may

COMEDY OF THE DAY

TELEVISION REVIEW

sreel showed a keen
ult checking tha King's
tity papers – just in case
ifun had infiltrated a
I lookalike to mount s
man takeover.
's hardly news, though,
power is an intoxicating
tance. Put a small man in
firm and you bears

BBC

Weether (T) (735251). 12.05 Call My Bluff (R) (S) (9148248). 12.35 Wipsout (S) (5403267). 1.00 News; Weather (T) (61422). 1.30 Regional News; Weather (97656977). 1.40 The Weather Show (S) (78710783). 1.45 Neighbours (S) (T) (4221731). 2.10 Through the Keyhole (S) (T) (16850737).

2.40 Tennis. The Stella Artols Championships from Queen's Club. Tim Henman and Greg Rusedski ere the British hopefuls, both of whom are "heppy on grass" (8) (8)02151).

3,30 CM

5.35 Nsighbours (8) (T) (434808). 6.00 News| Westher (T) (638).

6,30 Reg onal News (T) (118).

7.00

Children's Hospital. A teenager who fell 60ft down e lift sheft, end a 10-year-old with a dicky hip are among the poorly little people (S) (T) (8828).

Mayo (S) (T) (7395). More audience members feign surprise I with their harmlese decetts by Simon

rs; Regionel News; Waather (B) (T) (7557).

9.30 Men Behaving Badly. Tony starts reading Hey Lerdy: the New Lade' Diet Book (R) (S) (T) (20248)

10.00 The Clempers. Last in the series of the embellished fly-on-the-windscreen docu-scep (S) (T) (15828).

Children's BBC: Rupert (R) (S) (6570489), 3.35 Pleydeys (R) (S) (8639084), 3.55 Arthur (R) (S) (8633880), 4.20 Mr Wymi (R) (S) (T) (2303977), 4.35 Out of Tune (B) (T) (6083557), 6.00 Newsround (S) (T) (8208921), 5.40 Bright Sparks (S) (T) (6508489).

10

Surnmer Hollday. Kele Sanderson takee it assy Greek islend of Paxos (S) (T) (2880).

7.30 EastBnders. Brece yourselves - Peggy end Frenk could be sucking on opposite ends of a speghatti atrand over dinner at Guiseppi's (B) (T) (842).

World Cup 98 Preview. Desmond Lynem reflects on the relative changes of big shots such as Brezil. Germany and Argentina, and footballing chipolates such as South Africe, Japan and Jamaica (B) (T) (7444248).

Newsnight, it's Paxman's turn to chew them up and split them out (1) (53818).

The director was deeft an impressive hand for his first Hollywood picture, a orlime connedy about two esceped cons – Robert De Niro and Sean Penn – who mesquerade as priests in a smell town on the US-Canadian border during the 1930s Depression. David Mamet's ecript is akilifully drawn out by Jordan, on unfamiliar comic ground, while a buffooning De Niro shows his fondness for farce (\$) (1) (624915). News 24 (42123519). To 6.00am.

BBC2

7.00 Children's BBC: Telefubbles (S): Flintstone Comedy Show (2232084 (T) (2983625). B.15 Funky Phantom Poddington Pees (R) (S) (7812189).

5.45 The Record (45:5064), 9:10 Job Bank (S) (456:847), 9:20 Job Bank (S) (462:5335), 9:30 Pathways of Bellef: Judalam (S) (83:14373), 9:45 Numbertime (S) (83:19828), 10.00 Telefubbles (S) (67354), 10:30 Velich (S) (6274557), 10:45 The Geography Programme (S) (8653064), 11:40 Zig Zag (S) (1610286), 11:30 Teaching Today (S) (8064), 12:00 Key Skills: Study Skills (B) (34511).

12.30 Working Lunch (31354). 1.00 Bump (R) (S) (25871880); 1.05 Mouse and Mole (R) (S) (25870151). 1.10 Alise Smith: and Jones (R) (1136828). 2.00 Tennis: The Stella Artois Champlonships (S) (4918731). 2.40 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (7480354). 2.46 Westminster with Diane Madil (S) (T) (1910488). 3.25 News; Regional News; Weather (T) (9340731). 3.20 Tennis. The Stelle Artois Champlonships (S) (523083).

6.50 Dispater. Alarming forecast of the implications of the Millennium computer bug - M & S had a recent close

shave when their system nearly destroyed a consignment or corned beet with a self-by-date of 2005 (S) (T) (460170).

B.00 Cricket. Highlights of today's Benson and Hedges
Cup semi-finals. Lelcestershire take on the
thoroughbrede of Surrey at Grace Road, where ndlan all-rounder Phil Simmons.

a tie le Yorkahire egainat Essex. where

9.00 In the Red. The final part of Melcolm Bradbury's joyously black adaptation of Mark Tevener's actifice pycksy beta suspect in the Bank Manager Murders finds the prime suspect in the Bank Manager Murders on trial at the Old Balley. Although at times as subtle as a bludgeon, it has an infectious comic energy and top-drawer cast, including Stephen Fry and John Birt the conniving radio controllere (S) (T) (1002).

10.00 I'm Alan Partridge. Repeat of the deservedly award-winning comedy (R) (S) (T) (84070). 10.00 News

10,30 Londos 10,40 Fantas

11.15 World 12.20 Cup 95 - Prefude to the Finele (358489). Rensgada (S) (5311170). 1.10 Commando (R) (T) 03). 1.40 Best of British Motor Sport (7865497). antasy World Cup Live (R) (2465858).

4.10 Soundtrex (S) (15388841). **4.25** ITV Nightscresn (3332923). **5.30** ITN Morning News (30584). **To** 600em.

B.10 Citizens of the World (T) (7106986). 6,35 A University without Walls (2179712).

bbles (S) (2253557), **7.25** The (2232084), **7.50** Blue Peter (S) Phantom (7486489), **5.35**

B.00 Fresh Princs of Bel Air (R) (B) (837877). 5,25 Ohlidren's BBC: O Zone Special (S) (941644).

7.30 MIUINE Heme Ground. "Boxing Babes" -- women who fight for their right to box. See Documentery of the Day; below (S) (T) (844).

5.30 Eye Spi

9.00 The Ruth Rendell Mysteriee: Going Wrong.
Julian Borids continuing tale of obsessive love finds Guy
behaving ever more cutrageously. A slightly heavyhanded series, which offers rewards, of a sort, to the
persistent viewer (5) (T) (5828).

Weether (1) (84016).

B Made in Menohester (S) (838480). 1: (S) (T) (23335). 12.00 The Midnight Hould 12.30 BBC Learning Zone – Open University of Resource (88045). 1.30 Energy from V 2.00 Schools: Languegea – the Spanish

nd Awey (S) (T) (3385373).

5.40 Nev Weather (1) (426712).

B.00 Londor Mary No 6.30 Home Truths. Rick Adams hosts a teenage quiz show with Ketle Boyle, apparently keeping score with e set of fridge magnets. Surreal (S) (286). n Tonight on the Road. Abstair Blowart and ghilngale are in Bucks (T) (606).

7.30 Educati at the Go 7.00 Emmerdele. The Woolpack quiz team recruite a star player and Betty calls the police. Crazy stuff (S) (T) (4248). Education, Education, Education. A topical look at the Government's plans to phase out grante and replace them with loans ahead of an expaoted revolt in the Commons (S) (170).

III. So farewell, then, Kevin Lloyd, aka Tosh Lines . kes his last ectesn appeerance (T) (3986).

y. Seline Scott with more cheesy security-stuff-and-nonsense (S) (T) (5731).

n Tonight (T) (191441).

By World Cup Live. David Baddlel and Frank channel-hop onto ITV, with e show every tew uring the World Cup (884267).

2.40 EIM Emergency Cell (Lewis Gilbert 1952 UK). lated medical thriller ebout some unsuitable blood who can save a fading lassie (5282478).

Channel

hannel 5

3.28 Childre en's 1TV: Potamus Park (R) (S) (8335808). 3.38 ee (8280712). 3.45 Rocky and the Dodos es (8280712). 3.45 Rocky and the Dodos es (8280712). 3.45 Rocky and the Dodos es (830460). 4.00 Extreme Ghostbustare (T) (3830460). 10 (1830467). 4.85 The New Doo Mysteries (R) (T) (1830467).

B.00

Roseanne. Dan's father ennounces his intention to marry Roseanne's best friend (R) (T) (248).

B.30 Home Improvement. Fun down at the hardware ahop in this US sitcom (S) (T) (B28).

7.00 Channel 4 News; Waather (S) (T) (379489).

7.55 The Windrush Years. Short series of mini-films celebrating 50 years of Caribbsan influence in Britein. Today, it's the turn of Lucillda Herris, who came over on the Emphs Windrush to John her husband (T) (832002)

5.00 Tee Time. This dreadful Chris Evans golf show may result in indigeation, like a lete-night kebab (T) (1538)

8.30 Trookside. What will be the consequences of Gary's return for Peter, Lindsey and Kylle? Will It be a) grief b) grief or o) grief? Oh, end Mick gets nerked when he discusses education with Oille (3) (T) (3373).

9.00 The Tourist Trep. Last in the series as the duped tourists are confronted with the film crew's deception -- the predictable reaction seems to be of the "I'm not normally like this, honestly" veriety. A likely story (T) (5557). 9.30 Friende. Ross makes a sacrifice for Rachel (R) (S) (T) (46286).

10.00 (Billing Eurobette BB. Irreverent World Cup preview from the Eurotresh team. See Comedy of the Dey, below (S) (T) (587828)

10.55 Gillis Delicatessan (Jean-Pierre Jeunet/Maro Caro 1990 Fr). Anerchic Franch comedy. See Film of the Dey, below (64180064).

12.55 The Sohweppes Suro Basohhh (R) (1320671).

2.45 The Diaco Years (R) (17213). 1.55 Portlaheed. The Bristol band's concert in New York last year (R) (8952774).

4.00 Chennel 4 Bchools (987%). To 6.00am. 3.15 Diepatohes. Repeated documentary exemining the amokeacreen which blew up after the death of Diana, Princase of Wales (R) (3086855). Carlton

V (2616170), 9.25 This Morning (T) (4620880), 9.30. se (S) (T) (1161828), 10.10 This Morning (T) 4422), 12.20 Your Shout (1852575), 12.30 News; er (T) (26860), 1.00 London Todey (T) (16118), 1.30 sry (Springer Show (S) (T) (5875460), 2.15 Home way (S) (T) (758151), 2.45 Waffle (S) (T) (755422), TN News Headlinee (T) (9348373), 3.20 London (T) (9345388) B.00 Besame Street (R) (S) (3489). 7.00 The Big Brackfast (S) (T) (61693). 9.00 Channel 4 Schools (S) (T) (63616). 11.30 Powerhouse (T) (4460). 12.00 Saseme Street (S) (34539). 12.30 Light Lunch (R) (T) (34606). 1.30 IIIM Billy Bedmouth. Short film about a boy who ——— has bed teeth until some nifty work-from his dentist.——— gives him a britismt smile (97672915).

1.40 Pat end Mat (97652161).

1.55 IIIM A Pair of Briefs (Reiph Thomse 1863 UK).
Sub-Boulting Brothers comedy from the learn behind the Doctor series, every bit as poor as its title auggests, it sees two newly quelified lewyers — a man and a woman — squebbling during a merital case (1) (80832480).

3.30 A Spiesh of Colour (T) (444). 4.00 Fitteen to One (S) (T) (189). 4.30 Countdown (S) (T) (5077888). 4.55 Ricki Leke (S) (T) (7849877).

3.30 **ETILIM** The Steel Trsp (Andrew Stone 1852 US). A highly-entertaining comedy in which Joseph Cotten plays the assistant menager of bank in LA who ettempts to run away with a million dollars and a ticket to Brazil. But his plans go awry, and he ends up having to replace the money without erousing suspicion (6930625).

لكذا عَنْ ألدصل

(3) (8657731), 7.30 Milkshakei (5) (3867248), 7.35 Wind in the Willows (7) (2497286), 8.00 Havakazoo (5) (4783151), 5.30 Dappledown Ferm (7) (478242), 9.00 Natural Tales (5) (7) (4706002), 9.30 The Oprah Wirifrey Show (9848880), 10.25 Sunsst Beach (5) (7) (5870557), 11.10 Lecza (7) (5) (6490593), 12.00 5 News at Noon (5) (7) (4793538), 12.30 Family Affairs (5) (7) (4690151), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (7) (8666002), 1.30 Sons and Daughters (4696422), 2.00 Open House with Gloria Humiford (5) (8086880), 3.00 100 Per Cent Gold (5) (8083848).

5.30 Pet Rescue. A litter of fox cubs end Mille, the underweight dog, are tonight's fluffy bundles of concern. It sounds like a case for the RSPCA (7) (335).

6.30 Family Affairs. Angus is surprised when Chris allows him to keep the dog, and Jamie bumps into Roy while feeing from the bulles (S) (T) (2773921).

8.00 100 Per Cent. Gameshow (S) (2973129).

5:10 The Oprah Winfrey Skow. Oprah is joined by a spiritual medium who believes he can communicate with the dead. He could be the very men to reach afternoon viewers of Channel 5 (1667354).

7.00 5 News, including First on Five (S) (T) (5360539)

7.30 Naturel Tales. An hitmate portrait of a Scandhavian brown bear, filmed over a 12-month period. Reveletions include the fact that bears are solitary creatures, except during the meting season... (S) (T) (8373985).

5.30 What's the Story? Vanesse Collingridge with more mainstream investigations (S) (4815444). **8.00 Hidden Worlds.** "Life in Triassic Park". The creatures inhebiting Arizona's Painted Desert and their extraordinary lineage which goes back to the choseurs (S) (9085147).

Jones is irresistible as the ex-baseball ater Ty Cobb, who exorcises his impotent rage on his ghost autobiographer, Al Siump (Robert Wuhl). It len't really a sports drame, more e parenoid, self-snalytical portreit of e self-loathing bigot, ill-equipped for e world without eduletion. Whille such heroes and issues seem central to the American psyche, some of the finer points are havitably lost on a British sudience. The action is played out on a drinking end womanising binge in Reno, and through a series of flashbacks. A partial success (S) (T) (84686267).

11.20 The Jack Dockerty Show. Guests include Sir Peter Ustinov and Keith Alien promoting his Islaet pop adventure, "Vindeloo" (8) (1316737).

12.00 La femme Nikita (R) (S) (8305045), 12.88 Live and Dangerous (S) (60843958), 2.05 Live and Dangerous (S) (8743120), 3.45 Asian Football Show (7808213), 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (8468671), 5.30 100 Par Cent (S) (6228107), 15 6.00em.

TELEVISION GUIDE BY PETER CONCILIE



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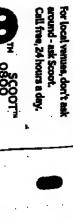
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DELICATESSEN (10.55pm C4, right) Dual directors Marc Caro and Jeen-Plarre Jeunet bring a comic-book virtuosity to this breathtaking tale of e cannibalistic epartment block in the near future. Dominique Pinon plays an unemployed ex-clown who wanders into an anarchic world of disturbing weirdness with bis pet monkey and a musical sew – e place where residents who stray outside at night end up on the dell counter in the morning. Pinon's is the least caricatured role, with a comic vulnerability to contrast with the paranola of the other residents, including his belle, the short-slighted daughter of a truly gruesome butcher. Fresh and very funny.











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